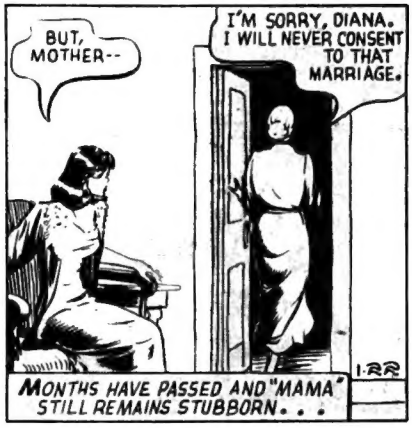
I CAN'T HURT MOTHER, DARLING. WE'LL GO HOME AND I'LL TRY TO CONVINCE HER. YOU FOLLOW US IN A FEW MONTHS.
SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, DIANA'S MOTHER REFUSED TO LET HER MARRY THE PHANTOM, UNLESS HE GAVE UP HIS ADVENTUROUS MODE OF LIVING.


BUT, MOTHER--
I'M SORRY, DIANA. I WILL NEVER CONSENT TO THAT MARRIAGE.
MONTHS HAVE PASSED AND "MAMA" STILL REMAINS STUBBORN. . .

I GIVE UP. I'VE DONE ALL I COULD TO CHANGE MOTHER'S MIND. NOW --I'M ON MY OWN! I'LL MARRY HIM -- IF HE STILL WANTS ME, REGARDLESS OF WHAT ANYBODY SAYS!

--IF HE STILL WANTS ME, HE SHOULD HAVE COME BY NOW. WHERE IS HE? OH--WHY DOESN'T HE COME--?

UNCLE DAVE AND I ARE GOING TO THE BOTANICAL GARDENS. WANT TO COME WITH US, DEAR?
NO, THANK YOU, MOTHER --I DON'T FEEL LIKE IT--

HONESTLY, DAVE, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH DIANA! SHE'S LOST INTEREST IN EVERYTHING!
Hmm--BOTANICAL GARDENS AREN'T VERY EXCITING. I'D SUGGEST YOU FIND HER SOME MALE INTEREST --IF YOU WANT HER TO FORGET THIS --er-- PHANTOM--

AN EXCELLENT IDEA, DAVE! WHERE DID I PUT MY BLUE BOOK?
THE INTERESTING YOUNG MEN OF THIS CITY ARE NOT ALL IN THE SOCIAL REGISTER, LILY.

THAT MAY BE SO, BUT WE DON'T KNOW ANY OF THEM!
AS USUAL, MY DEAR SISTER, YOU HAVE THE LAST WORD IN EVERY ARGUMENT.

MAMA'S TRYING TO MAKE DIANA FORGET THE PHANTOM, BY SUPPLYING NEW AND MORE "ELIGIBLE" HEART-INTEREST.
HER FIRST SELECTION--

THAT'S THE SHAG, BABY. YOU GOTTA THROW YOURSELF INTO IT MORE.
ANY MORE AND WE'D GO THRU THE ROOF!

THE NIGHT'S STILL YOUNG! WE'VE ONLY BEEN TO SIX SPOTS. HOW ABOUT TOMORROW NIGHT?
NO, THANK YOU, HAROLD. I'LL NEED A WEEK TO RECUPERATE. GOOD NIGHT!

Hmm--THAT DIDN'T SEEM TO BE SUCCESSFUL.
NO, LILY. DIANA'S NOT THE JITTERBUG TYPE. IF YOU CARRY ON WITH THIS, I'D SUGGEST A MORE SUBSTANTIAL SORT OF MALE.

YES, I BELIEVE THE MARKET'S DUE FOR AN UPSWING, CONDITIONS BEING WHAT THEY ARE.
MOST INTERESTING --choke-- choke--

LAST MONTH, WE NETTED CLOSE TO TWENTY THOUSAND, AND I FULLY EXPECT THAT NEXT MONTH, Blah-Blah-Blah--
DO YOU MIND IF I OPEN A WINDOW? THE AIR'S GETTING A LITTLE--choke --choke- THICK--

--AND THE GILT-EDGED ISSUES AT FOUR PER CENT ARE A SOUND INVESTMENT IF-- Blah-- Blah-- Blah--
MOST FASCINATING-- DON'T LET ME RUSH YOU OFF--

HE DIDN'T LAST LONG! WHAT ON EARTH WILL INTEREST THE GIRL?
HE WAS A BIT TOO SUBSTANTIAL! SEE IF YOU CAN FIND THE ATHLETIC TYPE IN THAT BLUE BOOK OF YOURS.

SURE, I WON THAT STATE GAME ALL BY MYSELF! THE CROWD WENT WILD! YOU SHOULDA SEEN ME! WANNA FEEL MY MUSCLE?
NO, THANK YOU.

HERE'S HOW I MADE THAT FIFTY-YARD THRU TACKLE! STAND UP THERE -- IT'LL GIVE YOU A BETTER IDEA--
MUST I?

I'M OFF LIKE A FLASH -- I SEE THE OPENING -- ZINGO--I'M OFF--!
OH!

THAT'S THE END OF HIM! I GIVE UP, DAVE! SHE DOESN'T LIKE ANY OF THEM!
YOU'VE GIVEN HER VARIETY, I'LL SAY THAT. I'LL HAVE A TALK WITH HER, MYSELF, TOMORROW.

I'M NOT THAT DUMB, UNCLE DAVE. I KNOW WHY MOTHER'S BRINGING ALL THESE BOYS AROUND. THEY MAY BE NICE--FOR SOMEONE ELSE--BUT I'M NOT INTERESTED!
STILL THIS PHANTOM --EH?

DIANA, YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH A STRANGE MAN, WHO'S MORE LEGEND THAN FACT. HE'S REGARDED BY MILLIONS AS AN IMMORTAL SUPERMAN. IN MANY PLACES, HIS WORD MEANS LIFE OR DEATH.

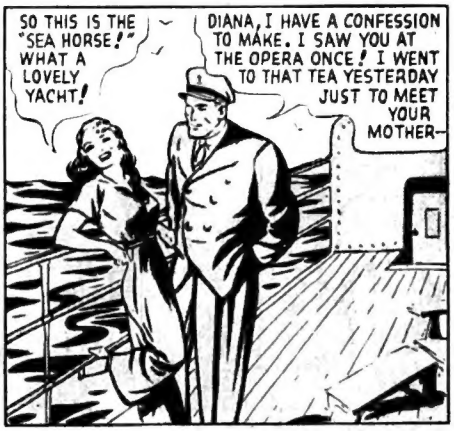
CHILD, FORGET HIM! HOW CAN YOU EXPECT HIM TO REMEMBER YOU? THE CHANCES ARE A MILLION-TO-ONE THAT YOU'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN!
NO-- NO--

HE HASN'T FORGOTTEN ME--I WILL SEE HIM AGAIN---

WELL, DAVE. WHAT DO I DO NEXT? SHE'S NOT INTERESTED IN ANY OF THE MEN IN OUR SET!
LILY, I DON'T LIKE TO ARRANGE ROMANCE. THAT SHOULD BE SPONTANEOUS! BUT REMEMBER, OUR DIANA'S NOT LIKE ORDINARY GIRLS.
MAMA AND UNCLE DAVE DISCUSS DIANA.
1-29
SHE'S WIDELY TRAVELED---AND --SHE'S IN LOVE WITH THIS PHANTOM-- ONE OF THE MOST DARING AND ADVENTUROUS MEN ON THIS DIZZY GLOBE! YOU'VE TRIED TO MAKE HER FORGET HIM. HOW?
WITH A JITTERBUG, A STODGY BROKER AND A HALF-WITTED HALFBACK, ALL DECENT LADS --BUT NOT FOR HER! FIND HER A ROMANTIC, UNUSUAL SORT OF MAN--SOMEONE WITH GLAMOUR!
AND HOW DO I GO ABOUT FINDING THIS UNUSUAL, GLAMOUROUS YOUNG MAN--WITH AN ACCEPTABLE FAMILY BACKGROUND?
YOU MIGHT ADVERTISE.
LOVELY TEA, DEAR.
LILY, I WANT YOU TO MEET A FRIEND OF MINE, A MOST FASCINATING AND AMAZING MAN!
HE'S AN EXPLORER AND GLOBE-TROTTER, FABULOUSLY WEALTHY --AND A BACHELOR! THE CATCH OF THE SEASON! HERE HE COMES NOW!
MRS. PALMER, THIS IS BARON DANTON.
HOW DO YOU DO, MRS. PALMER?
1-30
THIS IS THE MAN-- THIS IS THE MAN FOR DIANA!
THIS IS MY DAUGHTER, DIANA, BARON DANTON.
HOW DO YOU DO?
IT WAS AWFULLY NICE OF YOUR MOTHER TO ASK ME TO SEE YOU. I HOPE I HAVEN'T UPSET ANY OF YOUR PLANS.
NOT AT ALL. DID YOU SAY YOU'VE BEEN TO BENGAL?
YES. OFTEN. I LOVE THAT PART OF THE WORLD.
SO DO I! WHEN WERE YOU THERE LAST?
DIANA IS INTERESTED-- BENGAL IS THE HOME GROUNDS OF THE PHANTOM!
AT LAST--WE'VE FOUND A MAN SHE'S INTERESTED IN--SOMEONE TO MAKE HER FORGET THAT PHANTOM PERSON!
DON'T BE TOO SURE, LILY.
1-31

WE'RE SPENDING THE AFTERNOON ON THE BARON'S YACHT, MOTHER.
HAVE A NICE TIME, DEAR.

LILY, YOU'RE NOT TRYING TO RUSH DIANA INTO MARRIAGE WITH THAT FELLOW?
NONSENSE, DAVE! I ONLY WANT HER TO FORGET THAT NAMELESS PHANTOM PERSON. BESIDES, WHY NOT MARRIAGE? THE BARON'S A REAL GENTLEMAN!


SO THIS IS THE "SEA HORSE!" WHAT A LOVELY YACHT!
DIANA, I HAVE A CONFESSION TO MAKE. I SAW YOU AT THE OPERA ONCE! I WENT TO THAT TEA YESTERDAY JUST TO MEET YOUR MOTHER—

--HOPING THAT THRU HER, YOU AND I MIGHT MEET.
WHAT A COINCIDENCE, BARON. I THINK MOTHER WENT TO THAT TEA FOR THE SAME REASON!

PIGEONS! ON A YACHT, OF ALL PLACES!
A HOBBY OF MINE, DIANA. THEY TRAVEL EVERYWHERE WITH ME. MAKE FINE PETS.
ON BARON DANTON'S YACHT, THE "SEAHORSE".

LOOK--THERE'S ONE FLYING OVER THE BOAT! OH--POOR THING! IT'S WING IS HURT! IT'S FALLING ONTO THE DECK!

POOR LITTLE FELLOW--OH, IT HAS A MESSAGE TIED TO IT'S LEG! I ALWAYS WANTED TO SEE ONE OF THEM!
DON'T TOUCH IT!
R-R

WHY SHOULDN'T I? HOW EXCITING--A CARRIER-PIGEON--LET'S SEE WHAT IT SAYS--ON--WHAT IS THIS--?

THIS IS A STRANGE MESSAGE, BARON. TELL ME, JUST WHY DO YOU KEEP CARRIER-PIGEONS ON THE DECK OF THIS PRETTY YACHT?
AN INTERESTING QUESTION, DIANA.

BARON DANTON--!
CURIOSITY HAS BEEN KNOWN TO KILL OTHER THINGS BESIDES CATS!
R-3

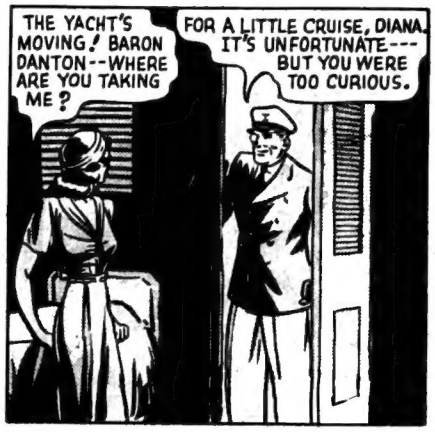
PULL UP ANCHOR. WE'RE LEAVING!
AYE, SIR!

GETTING LATE. WHAT'S KEEPING DIANA?
I'M NOT AT ALL WORRIED ABOUT HER, DAVE. SHE'S QUITE SAFE WITH A PERFECT GENTLEMAN LIKE BARON DANTON!

THEY SAY DANTON'S YACHT, THE SEAHORSE, LEFT THE YACHT BASIN TWO HOURS AGO?
LEFT? IT'S AFTER MIDNIGHT--WHAT DOES IT MEAN, DAVE? WHAT'LL WE DO?

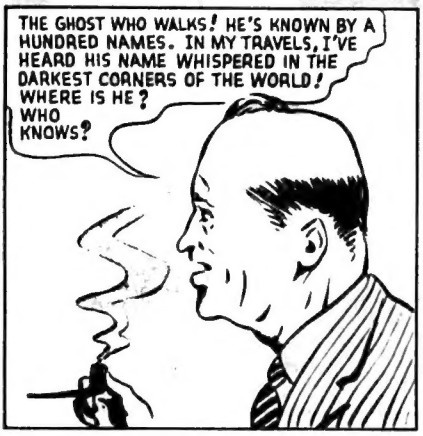
I'LL HAVE THEM SEND A RADIO MESSAGE TO DANTON AND FIND OUT WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT. PERFECT GENTLEMAN, GLAMOUR--
Poof!

RADIO MESSAGE FROM THE BASIN, SIR.
RADIO BACK THAT MISS PALMER LEFT THE SEAHORSE AT THE DOCK AND TOOK A TAXI FOR HOME BEFORE WE LEFT.


THE YACHT'S MOVING! BARON DANTON--WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?
FOR A LITTLE CRUISE, DIANA. IT'S UNFORTUNATE--- BUT YOU WERE TOO CURIOUS.

DIANA'S MOTHER RECEIVES DANTON'S RADIO-GRAM, STATING THAT DIANA IS NOT ABOARD THE "SEAHORSE."
WE'VE CALLED EVERY HOSPITAL AND POLICE STATION--WHERE CAN SHE BE? NO ONE CAN FIND HER!
THERE'S ONE MAN WHO'D FIND HER--IF HE HAD TO RIP THIS TOWN APART! THE PHANTOM! YES, THE PHANTOM!
R-6

THE PHANTOM? WHERE IS HE?
WHERE IS HE? WHERE DO THE LIGHTS GO WHEN THEY'RE TURNED OUT? MEN HAVE CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN HIM IN A DOZEN PLACES AT ONCE. HE'S A WILL-O'-THE-WISP!

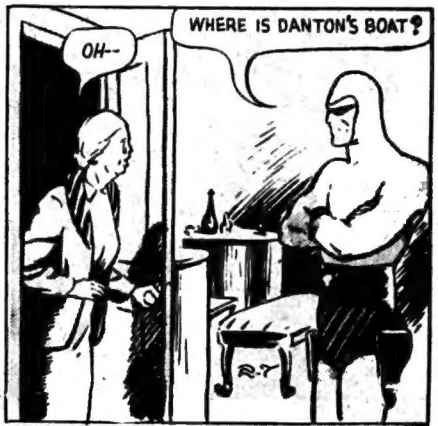

THE GHOST WHO WALKS! HE'S KNOWN BY A HUNDRED NAMES. IN MY TRAVELS, I'VE HEARD HIS NAME WHISPERED IN THE DARKEST CORNERS OF THE WORLD! WHERE IS HE? WHO KNOWS?

IN THE OUTSIDE HALL THERE ARE ALMOST SOUNDLESS FOOTSTEPS AND TWO FAMILIAR SHADOWS ON THE WALL—OR COULD WE BE MISTAKEN?

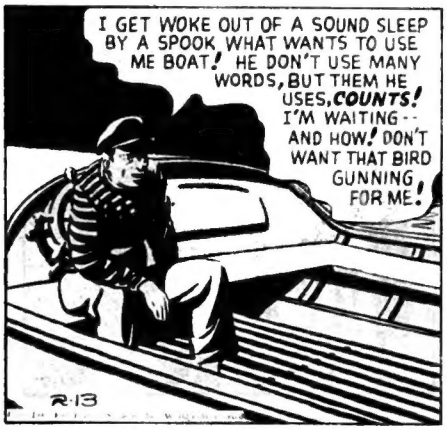
HOW DO WE KNOW THAT DIANA LEFT DANTON'S BOAT, AS HE SAID SHE DID?
A GENTLEMAN LIKE BARON DANTON WOULDN'T LIE, WOULD HE?
DIANA IS MISSING!

WE HAVE ONLY HIS WORD FOR IT THAT HE'S A GENTLEMAN, WHATEVER THAT IS!
DON'T BE ABSURD, DAVE. SHE MAY HAVE GONE TO SOME FRIENDS TO SPEND THE NIGHT!

THEN SHE WOULD HAVE 'PHONED OR LEFT A NOTE.
A NOTE, OF COURSE! SHE MUST HAVE LEFT IT IN HER ROOM!


OH--
WHERE IS DANTON'S BOAT?
R-7

TRAINED TO EAT ONLY FROM HIS MASTER'S HAND, DEVIL LOOKS DISDAINFULLY AT THE FOOD.



The PHANTOM SLIPS QUIETLY FROM THE BLACK WATER, CLIMBING THE ANCHOR CHAIN OF THE "SEAHORSE"...

YOU WERE MY MOTHER'S IDEA OF A GENTLEMAN! SHE SHOULD ONLY KNOW!
STRANGE, WHAT IDEAS ELDERLY LADIES HAVE. NOW--YOU HAVE YOUR CHOICE! JOIN US--OR THE LITTLE FISH AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN!

IS THIS WHY YOU GOT ME ON YOUR YACHT, BARON DANTON? TO FORCE ME INTO YOUR SPY-RING!
HONESTLY, NO, BUT YOU WERE TOO CURIOUS! YOU HAD TO READ THE MESSAGE ON THAT FALLEN CARRIER PIGEON!

IF YOU ARE SENSIBLE AND COME WITH US--DON'T IMAGINE YOU CAN DOUBLE-CROSS US LATER.
I BELIEVE YOU'D KILL ME! I BELIEVE YOU WOULD!
R-15

MY GOSH--WHAT'S THAT--?

ABOARD BARON DANTON'S YACHT, THE "SEAHORSE"...

WHAT HAPPENED DOWN HERE--?
R-16

I DON'T WANT TO DIE--ANYMORE THAN ANYBODY ELSE DOES---
I KNEW YOU'D BE SENSIBLE. COME, SIGN OUR REGISTER--

YOUR NAME--RIGHT THERE. YOU SEE, IF OUR SPY-RING--AS YOU CALL IT--IS EVER CAUGHT--YOUR NAME, IN YOUR OWN HANDWRITING, WILL BE FOUND AMONG THE REST!

WHAT'S GOING ON OUT HERE?
IT'S TINY, SIR. SOMEBODY HIT HIM!
R-17

I'M TELLING YOU, SIR, I SEE THIS FIGURE COME CREEPING UP THE ANCHOR CHAIN--A MONSTER FROM THE SEA ALL WET AND DRIPPING--
DON'T TALK LIKE A FOOL! WHO COULD BE OUT HERE? WE'RE IN OPEN WATER, MILES FROM SHORE!

ALL BLACK AND WET AND DRIPPING--IT HITS ME--LIKE A SLEDGE-HAMMER--
WHAT'S THIS ON YOUR JAW? LOOKS LIKE A DEATH'S HEAD--!

DEATH'S HEAD! IT CAN'T BE--BUT--IT MUST BE--OH!
IT IS.

DARLING--!

NO USE ASKING HOW YOU HAPPENED TO POP UP OUT OF NOWHERE--
QUITE A SURPRISE, EH?

WHAT'S THE MATTER--? YOU DON'T SEEM VERY --HAPPY--TO SEE ME--
R-19

COME ON. WE'RE GETTING OFF THIS TUB.
WHY IS THE PHANTOM SO STRANGELY COLD TO DIANA?

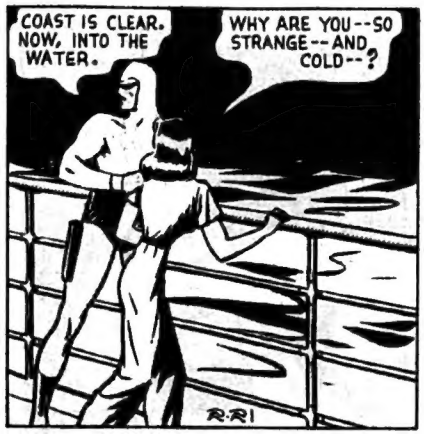
THERE'S A STRANGER ABOARD! OPEN THE GUN ROOM! DRAW RIFLES! SHOOT TO KILL!
ABOARD BARON DANTON'S YACHT, "SEAHORSE."

IS THAT YOUR BOY-FRIEND, THE BARON, MAKING ALL THAT NOISE OUT THERE?
MY BOY FRIEND--?
R-20

DID I SEE SOMETHING MOVE--?

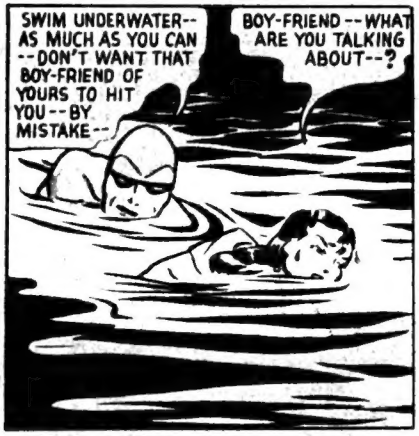
BEFORE THE SAILOR CAN CRY A WARNING, AN IRON ARM WHIPS OUT OF NOWHERE-

ON THE NARROW DECKS OF THE "SEAHORSE," THE PHANTOM WORKS QUICKLY AND SILENTLY--


COAST IS CLEAR. NOW, INTO THE WATER.
WHY ARE YOU--SO STRANGE--AND COLD--?
R-21

ARE YOU GOING TO DIVE, OR DO I HAVE TO THROW YOU OVERBOARD--?

NO--YOU DON'T HAVE TO THROW ME---


SWIM UNDERWATER--AS MUCH AS YOU CAN--DON'T WANT THAT BOY-FRIEND OF YOURS TO HIT YOU--BY MISTAKE--
BOY-FRIEND--WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT--?

THERE THEY ARE! THERE'S A LAUNCH OUT THERE!
SHOOT, FOOL!

WE'LL CLIMB OVER THIS FAR SIDE OF THE LAUNCH! NEVER MIND HELPING, PAL! GET THAT MOTOR STARTED.

THERE THEY GO! TOO DARK TO GET A BEAD ON THEM. DO WE FOLLOW?
NO, I'VE GOT A BETTER IDEA. MISS PALMER IS GONE--BUT NOT FORGOTTEN.
RRR

GIVE HER THE GUN, PAL. HERE'S A BLANKET. YOU'RE WET AND COLD.
DON'T BOTHER. I'M QUITE ALL RIGHT!

I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN MONTHS--BUT YOU COULDN'T WAIT UNTIL I GOT HERE--YOU HAD TO HOP OFF ON A YACHT WITH A PLAYBOY!
DID YOU THINK I WANTED TO STAY ON THAT YACHT?

OBVIOUSLY--OR YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN THERE!
IS THAT WHY YOU'VE BEEN SO--COLD AND STRANGE TOWARDS ME?
RR3

YOU THOUGHT I WANTED TO STAY ON THE SEAHORSE? YOU WERE ACTUALLY JEALOUS?
JEALOUS? I WAS READY TO EXPLODE! IF I HAD FOUND DANTON, I WOULD HAVE BROKEN HIS NECK!

OH, DARLING--I DIDN'T THINK I'D LIVE TO SEE THE DAY THAT YOU'D BE JEALOUS! IT'S MARVELOUS!
WHAT'S SO MARVELOUS ABOUT IT? I WAS READY TO POP! I STILL AM!

THAT'S WHY I LOVE YOU. YOU'RE SO GENTLE, LIKE A TORNADO. DARLING, I WAS A PRISONER ON THE SEAHORSE!
A PRISONER?

I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT IT LATER--IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE I'VE SEEN YOU--
CAN YOU STEER WITH YOUR EYES CLOSED?
YES SIR.
RR4

THEN DO

ABOARD THE "SEAHORSE," DIANA LEARNS BY ACCIDENT THAT THE "GLAMOUR BOY", BARON DANTON, HEADS A SPY RING...

GIVEN THE CHOICE OF DEATH OR JOINING THE RING, DIANA TAKES THE LATTER, AND SIGNS HER NAME IN THE SPY REGISTER...

LEARNING THAT DIANA, HIS SWEETHEART, IS ABOARD THE SEAHORSE, THE PHANTOM WASTES NO TIME GETTING THERE...

THEY'RE ESCAPING!
TOO LATE TO FOLLOW THEIR MOTORBOAT! I'VE GOT A BETTER IDEA!
THE PHANTOM AND DIANA ESCAPE FROM THE SEAHORSE, BUT THEY HAVEN'T SEEN THE LAST OF BARON DANTON!

WE'VE GOT A LONG RIDE AHEAD, DIANA. COLD?
NOT NOW.

BARON, IF THAT GIRL GETS TO THE POLICE -- WE'RE FINISHED!
SHE WON'T. I'M TALKING TO THE MAINLAND NOW.
ABOARD THE "SEAHORSE"--

I GOT YOU. GO AHEAD, BARON.
GET TO THE BOATHOUSE. FOLLOW THEM FROM THE PIER. GET THE MASKED MAN IF YOU CAN. BE CAREFUL. HE'S ARMED.
AT DANTON'S HIDDEN MAINLAND BASE...

BUT DON'T FAIL TO GET THE GIRL! SHE MUST NOT REACH HER HOME ALIVE!

WE HAVE TO GET BACK TO TOWN. HAVE YOU GOT A CAR?
YEAH, AN OLD RATTLETRAP. I'VE SEEN YOU THRU THIS FAR. I'LL TAKE YOU TO TOWN.

THAT'S THEM.
WE'D BETTER GET GOING.

HE MADE ME SIGN MY NAME IN THE SPY REGISTER. HE SAID IF THEY WERE CAUGHT, I'D BE ONE OF THE GANG!
DON'T LET THAT WORRY YOU. AFTER YOU GET HOME. I'M GOING BACK TO THE SEAHORSE!

WAIT UNTIL WE GET OUT INTO THE COUNTRY. THEN WE PULL ALONGSIDE.
AND DON'T FORGET -- SHOOT FOR THE GIRL!

WITH FIRE IN HIS EYES, THE PHANTOM ATTEMPTS TO LEAP THE GAP BETWEEN THE TWO SPEEDING CARS!

FIRE IN HIS EYES WHEN HE REALIZES THE THUGS ARE TRYING TO KILL DIANA, THE PHANTOM LEAPS THE GAP BETWEEN THE TWO SPEEDING CARS--

--AT QUARTERS TOO CLOSE FOR EFFECTIVE USE OF RIFLES, THE THUGS ARE MOMENTARILY PANIC-STRICKEN BY THE PHANTOM'S DARING MOVE--

THE DRIVER LOSES CONTROL-- THE CAR LURCHES OFF THE NARROW ROAD...

--AND GOES WILD, INTO A PLOWED FIELD...

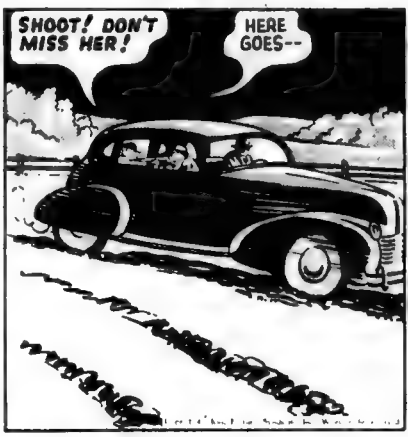
WHEN THE THUGS' CAR LURCHES INTO A PLOWED FIELD, THE PHANTOM IS THROWN OFF THE RUNNING-BOARD ---

WHEEL AROUND! HE'S FLAT ON THE GROUND!

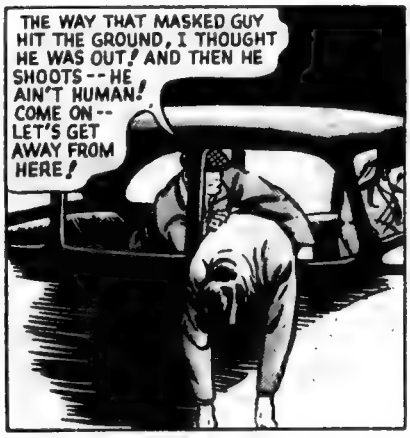
DARLING--!
AND DIANA RUSHES TOWARDS THE FALLEN PHANTOM ---
3-4

THERE'S THE GIRL! SHOOT --AND DON'T MISS!
I WON'T--

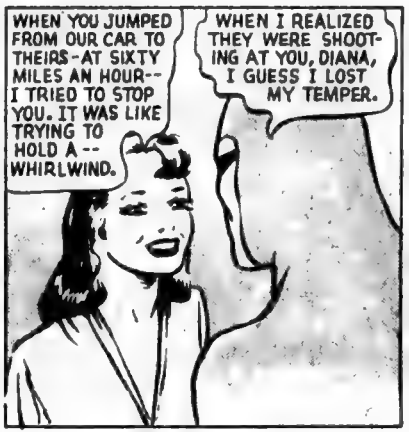
DARLING--DARLING--
AS DIANA RUSHES THRU THE BROKEN FENCE TO THE FALLEN PHANTOM ---


SHOOT! DON'T MISS HER!
HERE GOES--

3-5


THE WAY THAT MASKED GUY HIT THE GROUND, I THOUGHT HE WAS OUT! AND THEN HE SHOOTS--HE AIN'T HUMAN! COME ON--LET'S GET AWAY FROM HERE!

DARLING--I THOUGHT YOU WERE--
DEAD? NO, TAKES MORE THAN THAT. I SAW STARS WHEN I LANDED. LUCKILY, THE GROUND IS SOFT.
3-6


WHEN YOU JUMPED FROM OUR CAR TO THEIRS-AT SIXTY MILES AN HOUR--I TRIED TO STOP YOU. IT WAS LIKE TRYING TO HOLD A--WHIRLWIND.
WHEN I REALIZED THEY WERE SHOOTING AT YOU, DIANA, I GUESS I LOST MY TEMPER.

FINE RIDE. I ALMOST GET MURDERED AND MY CAR'S RUINED. GAS TANK'S RIDDLED WITH HOLES.
DON'T WORRY. WE'LL PAY FOR THE DAMAGES. THANKS FOR DRIVING THE WAY YOU DID! YOU STUCK TO THE WHEEL LIKE A PAL.

SAY, IT'S KINDA EXCITING, WORKING FOR YOU. MAYBE YOU'LL BE NEEDIN' SOME MORE HELP SOME DAY.
MAYBE. IF I DO, I KNOW WHERE I CAN FIND A REAL MAN. SO LONG, SAILOR.

GUESS WE'LL HAVE TO WALK INTO TOWN. I CAN'T GO LIKE THIS.
NO, YOU'D HOLD UP TRAFFIC. SAY---I I'VE GOT AN IDEA!
3-7

WELL, I DON'T KNOW--
JUST WHAT THE WELL-DRESSED MAN WILL WEAR. COME ON! YOU LOOK BEAUTIFUL!

I TELL YOU, BARON, WE DID ALL WE COULD. THEN THAT MASKED GUY JUMPS ON OUR CAR, AT SIXTY MILES AN HOUR--WE CRASH THRU A FENCE AND SHAKE HIM OFF--
AT BARON DANTON'S MAINLAND HIDE-OUT=

-- AND THEN, JUST AS RED'S TAKING A BEAD ON THE GIRL, THIS GUY SHOOTS FROM THE GROUND--AND ALMOST FINISHED RED! I TELL YOU, THAT MASKED GUY AIN'T HUMAN!

I'M NOT INTERESTED IN THE DETAILS. THE FACT REMAINS THAT THE GIRL WAS TO BE KILLED. SHE ESCAPED --AND IF SHE GETS TO THE POLICE, OUR ORGANIZATION IS FINISHED! AND WE'RE FINISHED!
WITH BARON DANTON, ABOARD THE SEAHORSE=

NOW, WE HAVE TO WORK FAST! NO SLIP-UPS! IF I CAN'T TRUST YOU WITH GUNS, MAYBE YOU CAN DO THIS! LISTEN CAREFULLY TO THESE INSTRUCTIONS -- AND DON'T FAIL THIS TIME----

THIS IS WHERE SHE LIVES. I'LL GET IT OVER QUICK BEFORE SHE GETS BACK! REMEMBER, IF YOU SEE HER COMING, BLOW THE HORN THREE TIMES!

I WISH HE'D STOP LOOKING AT ME!
EVERY TIME HE LOOKS AT ME, HE LICKS HIS LIPS!
IN DIANA'S HOME, WITH HER MOTHER AND UNCLE DAVE -- AND DEVIL---

THERE'S THE DOORBELL! MAYBE IT'S DIANA!
YOU'D BETTER ANSWER IT. I THINK HE LIKES YOU BETTER THAN HE DOES ME.
3-9

I'VE COME TO CHECK THE TELEPHONE, MA'AM.
OH, I THOUGHT YOU WERE---TELEPHONE? BUT I DIDN'T--- COME IN.
WHAT ARE THE BARON'S MEN UP TO NOW?

IF YOU WON'T TAKE OFF YOUR MASK, I'LL HAVE TO PUT ONE ON, SO PEOPLE WON'T ASK QUESTIONS.

GOING TO A PARTY?
JUST CAME FROM ONE.

BUT OUR TELEPHONE'S ALL RIGHT. IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE FIXED.
NO CHARGE, MA'AM. GOT MY ORDERS TO CHECK WIRING. JUST TAKE A MINUTE.
3-11
MEANWHILE, AT DIANA'S HOME, THE BARON'S THUG, POSING AS A SERVICE MAN....

THIS LOOKS LIKE THE GIRL'S ROOM.

POOR MOTHER. HOW SHE MUST BE WORRYING! I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE HER.
3-12

Gee--THAT WAS THEM, ALL RIGHT!
HONK HONK HONK
The DRIVER GIVES THE WARNING SIGNAL, THREE TIMES ON THE HORN....

THE HORN --THEY'RE COMING!

ALL THRU. THANK YOU. GOTTA RUSH NOW. ANOTHER JOB!

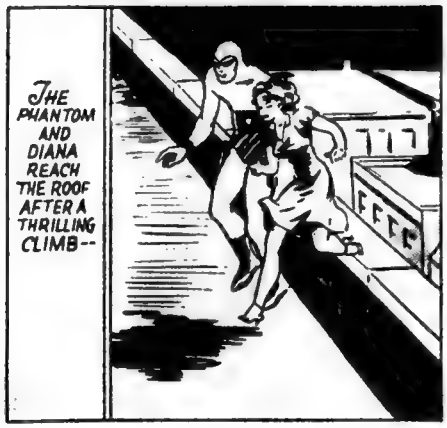
THAT DOORBELL AGAIN --- OH!
WANT YOUR HOUSE HAUNTED TODAY, LADY?

DIANA, DARLING--!
MAMA!

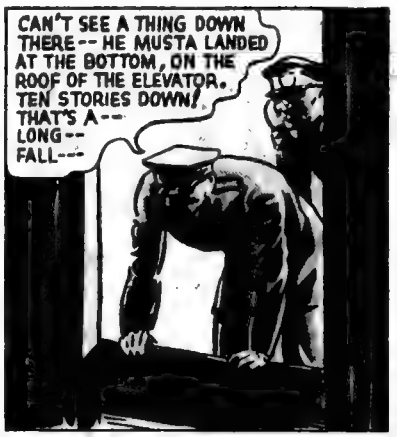
DID THEY SEE YOU?
NO, BUT IT WAS CLOSE. NOW FOR A LITTLE TELEPHONING TO THE POLICE AND DIANA PALMER WILL BE ON ICE!

YOU MEAN TO SAY BARON DANTON IS A SPY AND TRIED TO KIDNAP YOU, DIANA?
THAT'S A LAUGH! YOU WANTED A GLAMOUR BOY FOR THE GIRL! YOU SURE PICKED ONE OUT!
SO YOU'RE THE PHANTOM! WELL! I NEVER THOUGHT I'D ACTUALLY SEE YOU IN THE FLESH! I THOUGHT YOU WERE A LEGEND.
WHAT'S THAT?
HELP--HELP --HE'S AFTER ME!
HE THOUGHT YOU WANTED TO PLAY WITH HIM, MRS. PALMER. HE NEVER BITES PRETTY WOMEN.
YOU KNOW, IN SPITE OF MYSELF, I'M BEGINNING TO LIKE YOU.
THERE'S THAT DOORBELL AGAIN.
DARLING, YOU'D BETTER GET OUT OF SIGHT. IT MAY BE SOME FRIENDS. IT'D BE A LITTLE HARD EXPLAINING YOU TO THEM.
3-15
WE'RE THE POLICE? WHERE'S DIANA PALMER?
POLICE? DIANA-- SHE'S MY DAUGHTER --BUT--
Hmm -- NEVER THINK IT TO LOOK AT YOU, THAT YOU'RE A SPY! JUST SHOWS, YOU CAN NEVER TELL!
SPY-- WHAT- WHAT DO YOU MEAN--?
YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST! AND UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, THAT GOES FOR EVERYONE IN THIS HOUSE!
HOW DARE YOU ACCUSE MY NIECE OF BEING A SPY! I'M DAVID PALMER AND I DEMAND--
TAKE IT EASY. WE GOT HER COLD AND YOU'LL ALL HAVE QUESTIONS TO ANSWER.
ONE OF YOUR GANG SQUEALED, TELEPHONED US. WHERE'S YOUR ROOM?
MY ROOM--WHY --OVER THERE--
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? I TELL YOU I WAS KIDNAPED BY BARON DANTON, ON HIS YACHT, THE SEAHORSE ---
SAVE YOUR BREATH, MISS. THIS IS YOUR DRESSER, ISN'T IT? Hmm -- TOP DRAWER--
3-16
Uh-huh--MAPS, CODES--I SUPPOSE THEY JUST WALKED HERE, EH?
I'VE NEVER SEEN THEM BEFORE--I DON'T KNOW HOW THEY GOT THERE --I SWEAR I DON'T--

DIANA IS ARRESTED AS A SPY. SHE HAS BEEN "FRAMED" BY EVIDENCE PLANTED IN HER ROOM BY DANTON'S MAN!
I FOUND THIS STUFF IN YOUR ROOM. HOW'D IT GET THERE, MISS INNOCENT?
I DON'T KNOW, I TELL YOU. I WAS KIDNAPED BY BARON DANTON ON THE "SEAHORSE" AND---
I REMEMBER NOW! THAT TELEPHONE MAN! HE WAS IN DIANA'S ROOM!
OF COURSE! REMEMBER HOW HE RAN AWAY SO QUICKLY?
SEAHORSE. TELEPHONE MAN,--Huh! COME ON, YOU'RE ALL COMING TO THE STATION. I HAVEN'T GOT TIME TO LISTEN TO THIS WEIRD STUFF.
I THINK YOU'D BETTER TAKE TIME.
3 18
HER STORY IS CORRECT. SHE'S NOT A SPY. SHE'S COMPLETELY INNOCENT.
SHE SURE LOOKS IT-- WITH A MASKED, ARMED MAN HIDING BEHIND HER CURTAINS! WHO ARE YOU?
A FRIEND. IT SHOULD BE CLEAR THAT THE GIRL HAS BEEN FRAMED, VERY CRUDELY AND THOROUGHLY.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, WE'LL FIND OUT AT HEADQUARTERS!
NOW, PUT UP YOUR GUN! I'M AN OFFICER OF THE LAW! THIS PLACE IS SURROUNDED!
SORRY, BUT DIANA IS NOT GOING TO JAIL!
3 19
SHE'S STAYING WITH ME UNTIL SHE'S CLEARED.
MY SQUAD'S DOWNSTAIRS! IF YOU LEAVE, I'LL GIVE ORDERS TO SHOOT TO KILL!
WHERE NOW?
TO THE "SEAHORSE", IF WE CAN EVER GET AWAY FROM HERE.
STAND BACK THERE!
THE STREETS BELOW ARE CLEARED ---
THERE THEY GO!
3 20
I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS. WE'RE TOGETHER.
KEEP YOUR EYES CLOSED. IT'S A LONG WAY DOWN THERE.
THE CROWD WATCHES IN AWED SILENCE AS THE PHANTOM CLIMBS, TEN STORIES ABOVE STREET LEVEL! ONE SLIP MEANS DEATH!



The PHANTOM SUDDENLY DASHES ACROSS THE ROOF--

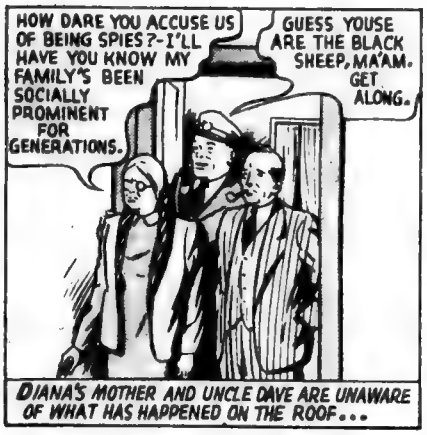


THE PHANTOM HAS JUMPED INTO AN OPEN ELEVATOR SHAFT!
TAKE HER DOWNSTAIRS. THE WAGON'S WAITING.
GOLLY, WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE MADE THAT MASKED MAN DO THAT? DID HE FORGET HE WAS ON THE ROOF? HE MUSTA GONE BATTY!

WISH I HAD A LIGHT. DARK DOWN THERE. CAN'T SEE THE ELEVATOR. MUST BE ON THE GROUND FLOOR. TEN STORIES DOWN. NASTY WAY TO DIE---

SEND THE BOYS TO GET THE REMAINS. HE MUSTA LANDED ON THE ROOF OF THE ELEVATOR. I WONDER WHO HE WAS?
3-25

MEANWHILE, HANGING ON THE ELEVATOR CABLE, IN THE DARKNESS OF THE SHAFT---


HOW DARE YOU ACCUSE US OF BEING SPIES?-I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW MY FAMILY'S BEEN SOCIALLY PROMINENT FOR GENERATIONS.
GUESS YOUSE ARE THE BLACK SHEEP, MA'AM. GET ALONG.
DIANA'S MOTHER AND UNCLE DAVE ARE UNAWARE OF WHAT HAS HAPPENED ON THE ROOF...

WHOA--THE CABLE STARTING TO RISE---
MEANWHILE, IN THE ELEVATOR SHAFT...

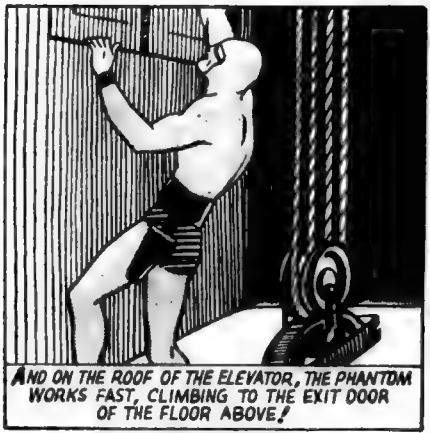
LITTLE HARD ON THE HANDS--BUT I DON'T WANT TO BE TAKEN BACK UP TO THE ROOF--
THE PHANTOM SLIPS DOWN ON THE RISING CABLE.

GOODNIGHT--THE ELEVATOR'S COMING UP! IF IT'S GOING TO THE ROOF--I'LL BE SMASHED LIKE A FLY!
3-26

OKAY, FOLKS, MOVE LIVELY!
THE ELEVATOR STOPS AT DIANA'S FLOOR...

LUCKY FOR ME THAT ELEVATOR STOPPED WHEN IT DID!
AND THE PHANTOM RIDES DOWN ON THE ELEVATOR ROOF!

I CAME DOWN ON THE FREIGHT ELEVATOR. DID YOU FIND THE MASKED MAN IN THIS ELEVATOR SHAFT?
HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
3-27

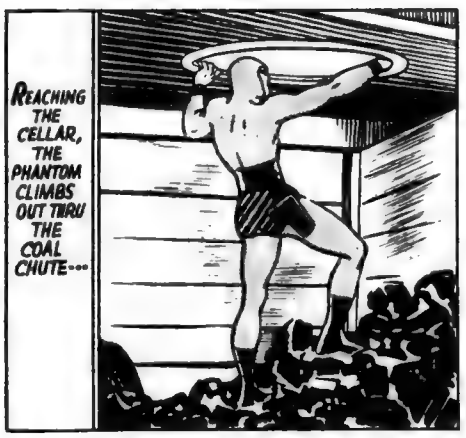

AND ON THE ROOF OF THE ELEVATOR, THE PHANTOM WORKS FAST, CLIMBING TO THE EXIT DOOR OF THE FLOOR ABOVE!

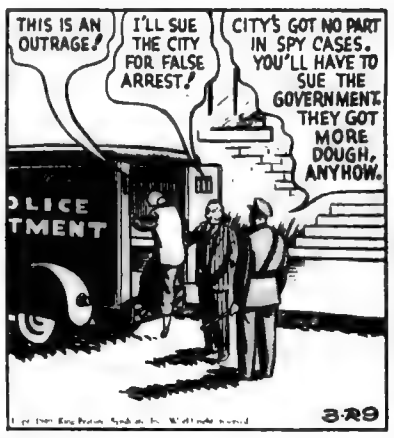
DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD AN EXTRA PASSENGER ON YOUR ELEVATOR, DID YOU?
HUH?

A MASKED MAN DID A NOSE-DIVE TEN STORIES DOWN THE SHAFT--HE MUSTA LANDED ON THE ROOF OF YOUR ELEVATOR!
GOLLY! I WAS OUT OF THE ELEVATOR FOR A FEW MINUTES! I DIDN'T HEAR NOTHIN'!

TAKE YOUR ELEVATOR ALL THE WAY DOWN TO THE BASEMENT. WE'LL GET THE BODY--
3-28

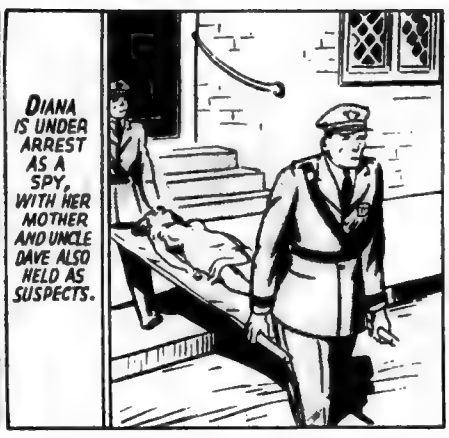
AIN'T NOBODY THERE--NOT A TRACE!
GONE! IMPOSSIBLE!


REACHING THE CELLAR, THE PHANTOM CLIMBS OUT THRU THE COAL CHUTE...


THIS IS AN OUTRAGE!
I'LL SUE THE CITY FOR FALSE ARREST!
CITY'S GOT NO PART IN SPY CASES. YOU'LL HAVE TO SUE THE GOVERNMENT. THEY GOT MORE DOUGH, ANYHOW.
3-29

THEY'RE BRINGING THE GIRL DOWN ON A STRETCHER. SHE'S FAINTED.
YEAH, I KNOW. IT BEATS ME! I SAW THAT MASKED GUY JUMP INTO THE ELEVATOR SHAFT! THERE WAS NOTHIN' BELOW HIM BUT TEN STORIES OF AIR!

BUT THERE'S NO TRACE OF HIM! WHERE DID HE GO?
LET THE MASTERMINDS AT H.Q. WORRY ABOUT IT! I'M JUST A PLAIN COP. I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO FIGURE OUT FANCY ONES LIKE THAT!


DIANA IS UNDER ARREST AS A SPY, WITH HER MOTHER AND UNCLE DAVE ALSO HELD AS SUSPECTS.

DIANA--DARLING--
I'M ALL RIGHT--
3-30

WHY DID HE DO IT--WHY DID HE DO IT--?
SHE BELIEVES THE PHANTOM HAS PLUNGED TO HIS DEATH IN THE ELEVATOR SHAFT...

UNSEEN, THE PHANTOM WATCHES. WHAT WILL BE HIS NEXT MOVE?

THOSE FOOLS! ARRESTING US AS SPIES! OF ALL THE CONFOUNDED, IDIOTIC---
OH, DAVE, IT'S ALL MY FAULT!

I PUSHED DIANA INTO MEETING BARON DANTON. SHE--SHE WAS IN LOVE WITH THE-- THE PHANTOM--BUT I WAS TOO STUBBORN TO LET HER DECIDE HER OWN LIFE--

NOW--HE'S DEAD--DANTON'S ESCAPED--WE'RE ALL IN JAIL--AND POOR DIANA'S GRIEVING HER HEART OUT--BECAUSE OF MY BLIND SELFISHNESS.
DON'T BLAME YOURSELF, LILY. WHO COULD DREAM THAT DANTON WAS A CRIMINAL?

ALONE IN HER CELL, DIANA FORGETS THAT SHE HAS BEEN FRAMED AS A SPY BY DANTON. ONLY ONE THOUGHT RUNS THRU HER HEAD--THE PHANTOM IS DEAD.

THIS ADDRESS WANTS A MESSENGER BOY RIGHT AWAY. DIDN'T GIVE ANY NAME.
OKAY.
AT A TELEGRAPH OFFICE...

COME ON, DEVIL. TIME FOR US TO MOVE.

FUNNY, THIS ADDRESS MUST BE A MISTAKE. CAN'T FIND IT ON THIS STREET.

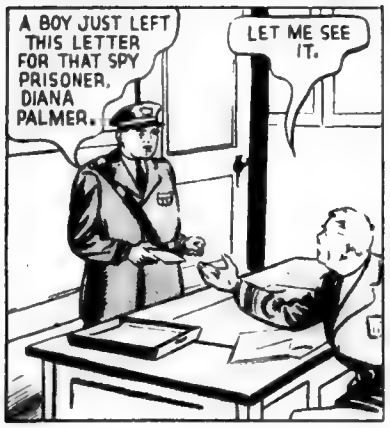
OH--
HERE WE ARE, BOY.
WHAT'S THE PHANTOM UP TO?

I'M THE PARTY THAT CALLED FOR A MESSENGER BOY. TAKE THIS TO MISS DIANA PALMER, AT THE CITY JAIL.
S-S-SAY--W-W-WHAT IS T-T-THIS? A G-G-GAG?

NO. SEE THAT SHE GETS IT RIGHT AWAY.
Y-Y-YES, S-S-SIR!

RIGHT AWAY!

NOW, AT LEAST DIANA WILL KNOW I'M ALIVE. AND NOW, DEVIL, FOR THE SEAHORSE, AND BARON DANTON!


A BOY JUST LEFT THIS LETTER FOR THAT SPY PRISONER, DIANA PALMER.
LET ME SEE IT.

4-4
The Phantom's Message!

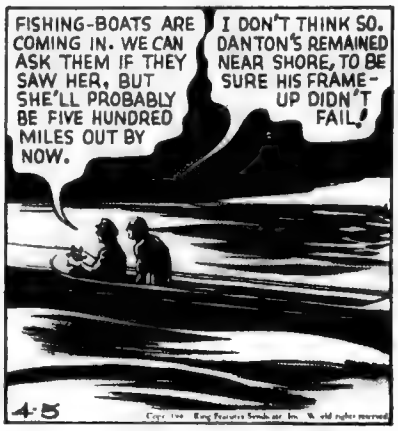
MY GOSH! A DEATH'S HEAD! WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT?
OH, A CRANK, PROBABLY. PRISONERS ARE ALWAYS GETTING THREATS AND WARNINGS LIKE THIS FROM CRANKS.

GOING TO GIVE IT TO HER?
NO. SHE'S GOT ENOUGH TO WORRY ABOUT, AS IT IS.

YOU CAME BACK!
YES, SKIPPER. I'VE GOT ANOTHER JOB FOR YOU. I WANT TO GO BACK TO THE SEAHORSE. GOT A PLACE WHERE I CAN LEAVE DEVIL?

HE'LL BE OKAY IN THIS SHED. HOPE HE LIKES THE GRUB. YOU MEAN YOU'RE GOING BACK TO THAT SAME YACHT?
YES. HERE YOU ARE, FELLA.

BUT THEY ALMOST MURDERED US! MAN, YOU LOVE TROUBLE!
I NEVER LOOK FOR IT. JUST TAKE IT AS IT COMES. ANY IDEA WHERE THE SEAHORSE IS?


FISHING-BOATS ARE COMING IN. WE CAN ASK THEM IF THEY SAW HER, BUT SHE'LL PROBABLY BE FIVE HUNDRED MILES OUT BY NOW.
I DON'T THINK SO. DANTON'S REMAINED NEAR SHORE, TO BE SURE HIS FRAME-UP DIDN'T FAIL!
4-5

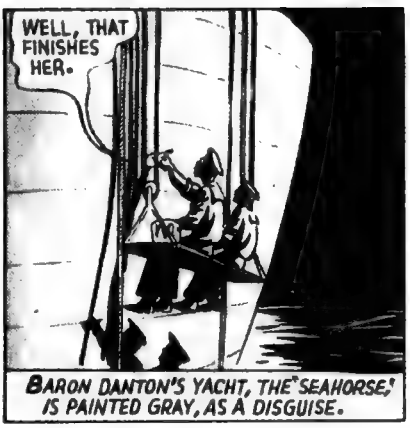
SEEN THE SEAHORSE?
NOPE.
THE PHANTOM, ATTIRED IN OILSKINS, AND THE SKIPPER HAIL PASSING FISHING-BOATS.

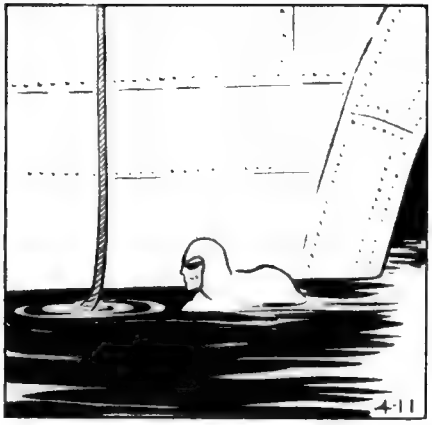
THAT'S THE THIRD ONE WE'VE ASKED.
WE'LL KEEP TRYING. THERE'S ANOTHER FISHING-BOAT AHEAD.

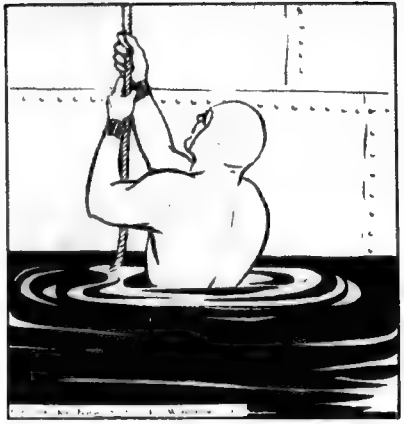
SEAHORSE! WHITE OILBURNER, HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FOOTER, STREAM-LINE YACHT.
SEEN ONE LIKE IT BY THE BANKS, BUT SHE WAS GRAY, NOT WHITE.
4-6

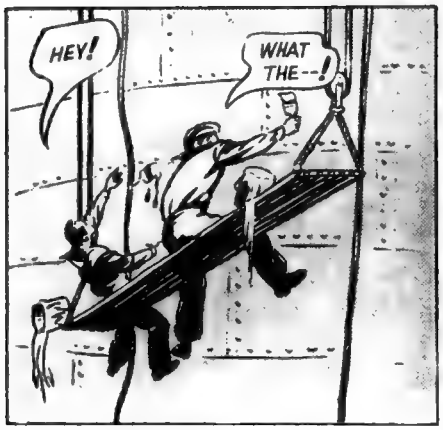
CAN'T BE THE SEAHORSE HE SAW. NOT IF IT WAS GRAY.
ALL CATS LOOK GRAY AT NIGHT. WE'LL HAVE A LOOK AT HER. GO TO THE BANKS.

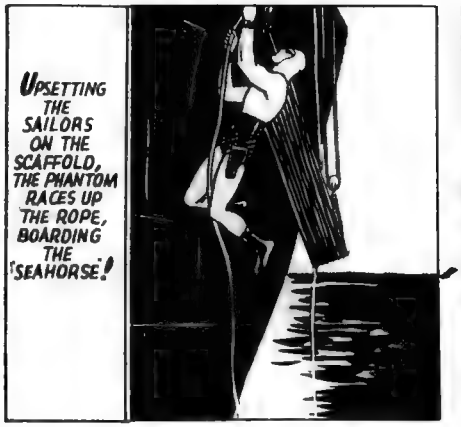
The STORY, SO FAR.
I NEVER SAW THEM BEFORE!
HOW'D THEY GET IN YOUR BUREAU? WALK IN?
FRAMED AS A SPY BY BARON DANTON'S MEN, AFTER THE PHANTOM HAD RESCUED HER FROM DANTON'S YACHT, THE "SEAHORSE", DIANA IS ARRESTED.
I WON'T GO WITHOUT DIANA.
CAN'T DO HER ANY GOOD HERE.
DIANA'S MOTHER AND UNCLE DAVE ARE ALSO ARRESTED, THEN RELEASED ON BAIL, BUT THEY ARE UNABLE TO RELEASE DIANA--
48
WHO GRIEVES, BELIEVING THE PHANTOM TO BE DEAD. HIS MESSAGE TO HER, TELLING HER HE IS ALIVE, WAS DESTROYED BY THE POLICE.
--AND THE PHANTOM, TRYING TO CLEAR DIANA OF THE CHARGES, SEARCHES FOR THE ELUSIVE "SEAHORSE" AND BARON DANTON!
THAT YACHT OVER THERE! IT MAY BE THE "SEAHORSE"!
SHE'S GRAY. THE "SEAHORSE" IS WHITE.
YACHTS, UNLIKE LEOPARDS, CAN CHANGE THEIR SPOTS. PULL A LITTLE CLOSER...
4·9
THE MYSTERIOUS YACHT IS THE "SEAHORSE"! THEY SEE THAT IT IS BEING REPAINTED--GRAY!
SHUT OFF YOUR MOTOR. THAT'S THE "SEAHORSE": THE BARON'S DISGUISING HER WITH GRAY PAINT. I'LL SWIM FROM HERE.
I'M HANDY WITH MY DUKES. LEMME GO WITH YOU.
NO, YOU STAY HERE AND FISH!
FISH! I THOUGHT I WAS IN FOR SOME EXCITEMENT! I COULDA STAYED ON SHORE AND FISHED!
4·10
WHAT'S THAT BOAT OUT THERE? CAN YOU MAKE IT OUT?
HARD TO SEE IN THE DARK, BARON. OH—YES--JUST A LAUNCH, A FELLOW FISHING. WON'T BOTHER US.
AND ABOARD THE "SEAHORSE"...


WELL, THAT FINISHES HER.
BARON DANTON'S YACHT, THE "SEAHORSE," IS PAINTED GRAY, AS A DISGUISE.


4-11




HEY!
WHAT THE--!


UPSETTING THE SAILORS ON THE SCAFFOLD, THE PHANTOM RACES UP THE ROPE, BOARDING THE "SEAHORSE!"

HELP-- HELP--
HELP--

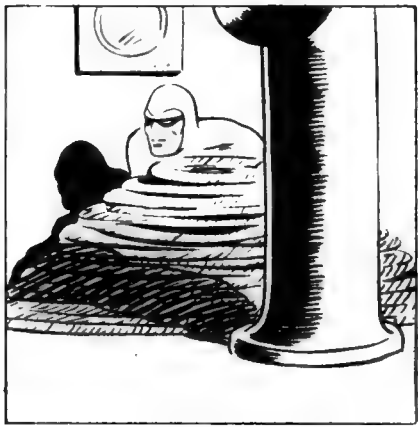
TWO OF THE MEN WHO WERE PAINTING JUST FELL INTO THE WATER, SIR!
WELL, PULL THEM IN, YOU FOOL!
4-12

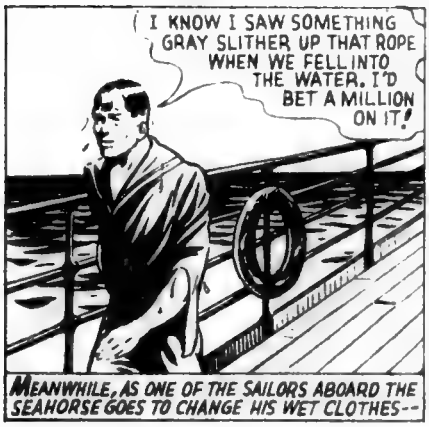
DON'T KNOW HOW IT HAPPENED, SIR. THE SCAFFOLD SUDDENLY COLLAPSED.
MAYBE I'M BATTY, SIR, BUT WHEN WE WERE FALLING, I COULDA SWORE I SAW SOMETHING GRAY SLITHERING UP THAT ROPE!

YOU SAW SOMETHING GRAY, SLITHERING UP THE ROPE? WHAT WAS IT? A MAN?
I DON'T KNOW, SIR. I WAS FALLING, AND IT WAS DARK, BUT---
4-13

YOU WERE SEEING THINGS. GET INTO DRY CLOTHES.
YES, SIR, BUT I COULDA SWORE--

THE SHIP IS COMPLETELY REPAINTED, BARON. WE'VE CHANGED THE NAME AND ADDED A FALSE FRONT ON THE BOW.
GOOD! IF ANYONE'S LOOKING FOR THE "SEAHORSE" NOW, THEY'LL HAVE A TOUGH TIME OF IT!





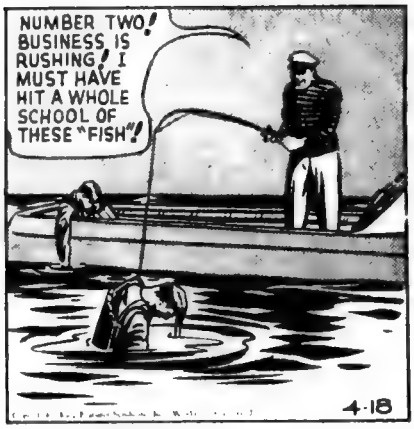
ONE MAN, AGAINST THE ENTIRE SHIP'S CREW! WHAT'S THE PHANTOM UP TO?

-FITTING A LIFE-BELT ONTO THE FALLEN SAILOR, THE PHANTOM THROWS HIM OVER THE RAIL OF THE "SEAHORSE"--

THE SLOW DRIFT OF THE DARK WATERS CARRIES THE UNCONSCIOUS MAN AWAY FROM THE ANCHORED YACHT-

WHAT YOU DO--?
TAKE A MESSAGE--!
The PHANTOM ENTERS THE RADIO-ROOM OF THE "SEAHORSE"...

I DON'T THINK I'LL NEED YOU!


NUMBER TWO! BUSINESS IS RUSHING! I MUST HAVE HIT A WHOLE SCHOOL OF THESE "FISH"!
4-18

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HIM--?
LOOK--ON HIS JAW--THE DEATH'S HEAD!

THROW RADIO-MAN--OVERBOARD--
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? RADIO-MAN OVERBOARD? WHO THREW HIM?

GET TO THE RADIO-ROOM! SEE IF THE OPERATOR'S THERE!
4-19

HE'S--MISSING! COULDN'T FIND HIM ANYWHERE! AND RED'S GONE, TOO! SOMETHING'S TOSSING THEM OVERBOARD! ANY OF US MAY BE NEXT!

RED--AND THE RADIO-MAN--TOSSED OVER-BOARD--
ANY OF US MAY BE NEXT!
SEARCH THE SHIP!

MOVING STEALTHILY, THE PHANTOM REACHES THE YACHT'S PUBLIC ADDRESS MICROPHONE....

IT'S A GHOST--IT'S A JINX--I'M NOT SEARCHING THIS SHIP--BARON. NOT ME--!
FOOL! IT'S A MAN! ARE YOU ALL COWARDS? I'LL LEAD THE SEARCH!
4-20

I WANT YOU, TOO, BARON DANTON, AND I'M GOING TO GET YOU!
SUDDENLY, A DEEP VOICE IS HEARD, ISSUING FROM LOUDSPEAKERS ALL OVER THE SHIP!

I WANT YOU, TOO, BARON DANTON. AND I'M GOING TO GET YOU!
A DEEP VOICE IS HEARD IN EVERY NOOK AND CORNER OF THE "SEAHORSE"!

HE'S ON THE BRIDGE, SPEAKING THRU THE PUBLIC ADDRESS! GET HIM!
AND THE ENTIRE SHIP'S CREW IS TERRORIZED

NOBODY-- HERE--
BUT BY THE TIME THEY REACH THE YACHT'S BRIDGE-

HE'S NOT GOING TO GET ME -- HE'S NOT -- HE'S NOT--

THIS -- THIS MAN HAS NEVER SEEN ME -- COME WITH ME TO THE GALLEY, BOKE.
YES, SIR.

BOKE, WE'RE CHANGING CLOTHES! FOR THE TIME BEING, YOU'RE GOING TO BE BARON DANTON.
HUH? NO, SIR-- NOT ME -- PLEASE SIR---

YOU'VE GOT YOUR ORDERS!
YES--SIR--

IT'S NOT THAT I'M AFRAID. IT'S JUST A MATTER OF STRATEGY -- YOU UNDERSTAND.
YES, SIR. I -- UNDERSTAND!

TERRORIZED BY THE PHANTOM'S VOICE, BARON DANTON HASTILY FORCES A SAILOR, BOKE, TO CHANGE CLOTHES WITH HIM.
NOW -- IF ANYONE SHOULD WANT TO KNOW -- YOU'RE BARON DANTON. YOU UNDERSTAND?
YES, SIR. DO YOU THINK -- ANYONE WILL BE FOOLED, SIR?

YES. ANYONE DOESN'T KNOW ME. TAKE THIS PISTOL. GO TO MY CABIN AND WAIT. MEANWHILE, WE'LL CARRY ON THE SEARCH!

STRATEGY -- HE CALLS IT. HE'S PLAIN YELLOW!

IF THIS ANYONE COMES SNOOPING AROUND ME, I'LL BLOW HIS HEAD OFF!

DANTON FORCES BOKE, A SAILOR, TO PUT ON THE BARON'S CLOTHES AND WAIT IN HIS CABIN...

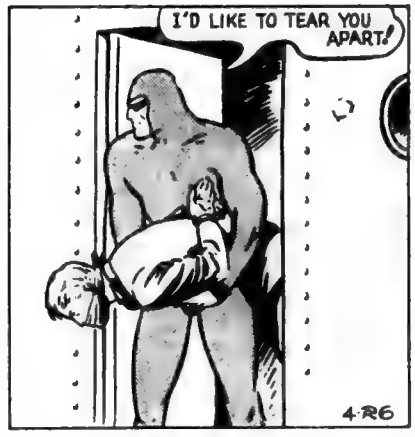
WHAT --WAS THAT-?
SUDDENLY THERE IS A KNOCK ON THE WINDOW BEHIND HIM--BOKE WHIRLS AROUND NERVOUSLY-

IF I SEE ANYONE--I'LL BLAST HIM INTO THE OCEAN--I'LL BLOW HIS HEAD OFF--I'LL--
4-25

BARON DANTON, I'VE BEEN WAITING TO MEET YOU! IT'S A PLEASURE!

I'M NOT--blub -- DANTON-- blub--
I THOUGHT FRAMING GIRLS WAS YOUR ONLY SPECIALTY! LYING SEEMS TO BE ANOTHER ONE, BARON DANTON.

AND THIS SEEMS TO BE THE LEDGER I WANT-- THE SPY REGISTER WHERE YOU FORCED DIANA TO SIGN HER NAME!

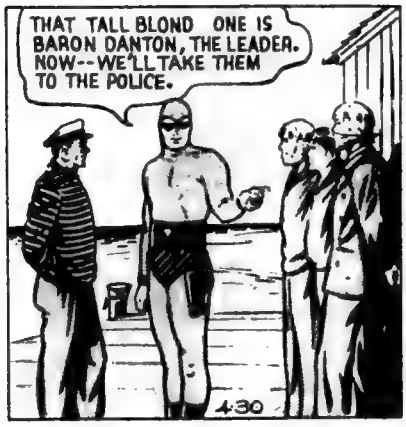

I'D LIKE TO TEAR YOU APART!
4-26

BUT I'LL LEAVE THAT FOR THE POLICE.

THERE THEY GO!
HE'S GOT BARON DANTON! SHOOT!

SO YOU GOT ANOTHER ONE! FISHING'S BEEN GOOD!
THIS IS THE KINGFISH, SKIPPER. START YOUR MOTOR. THOSE BULLETS ARE COMING CLOSE!
4-27

BARON DANTON! WE THOUGHT HE HAD YOU--!
HE STILL DOES! PULL UP ANCHOR! WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE!



BUT THE PHANTOM HASN'T GOT DANTON! HE'S GOT THE SAILOR, BOKE, WHO WAS FORCED TO MASQUERADE AS DANTON! WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

MRS. PALMER MUST BE MISTAKEN, CHIEF. I FOUND DANTON IN HIS CABIN AND THIS IS THE SPY REGISTER THAT HE FORCED DIANA TO SIGN. IT LISTS THE WHOLE OUTFIT.
Hmm- BRING IN THE GIRL.

DARLING!
DIANA!

DO YOU MIND POSTPONING THIS FOR A FEW MOMENTS UNTIL MISS PALMER IDENTIFIES BARON DANTON?

WHICH OF THESE MEN IS DANTON?
NONE OF THEM. HE--HE ISN'T ANY ONE OF THEM!

THIS LEDGER ONLY INVOLVES MISS PALMER DEEPER IN THIS SPY RING! DANTON'S THE ONLY MAN WHO CAN CLEAR HER AND HE ISN'T HERE! TAKE THE PRISONER BACK.

WHO ARE YOU? WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN DANTON'S CLOTHES?
I'M BOKE, A SAILOR. I TRIED TO TELL YOU--
TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF HIM! SURRENDER YOUR GUNS!
5-3

IF DANTON GETS AWAY, DIANA WILL NEVER BE PROVED INNOCENT!
I SAID, SURRENDER YOUR GUNS! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!
WHAT WILL THE PHANTOM DO?

CHIEF, I'M ON YOUR SIDE. I'M TRYING TO BREAK UP THIS SPY RING AND PROVE DIANA'S INNOCENCE.
I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE. GIVE ME YOUR GUNS!

SORRY, I CAN'T. I'VE GOT WORK TO DO. DIANA'S NOT GOING TO STAY IN THAT CELL!
YOU CAN'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!

I CAN TRY!

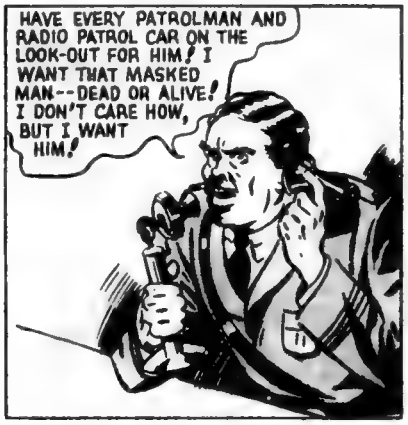
BRING HIM DOWN! THINKS HE CAN SKIP OUT OF JAIL, AS IF IT WAS A KINDERGARTEN!

I GUESS HE GOT AWAY!
AND YOU BETTER GET GLASSES OR LEARN HOW TO SHOOT! HE WON'T GET FAR! I'LL COVER THIS TOWN WITH A NET!

THOUGHT THE CHIEF WOULD BLOW UP! LUCKY HE LET ME GO, AT THAT. MAN, I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH THIS MASKED FELLOW. WONDER WHERE HE WENT?

WHAT THE-- YOU!
SKIPPER, GET BACK TO THE WATERFRONT. PASS THE WORD AMONG THE FISHING-BOATS TO WATCH FOR THE 'SEAHORSE'! NOW--DRIVE ME DOWN THE STREET --TO THAT PARK.

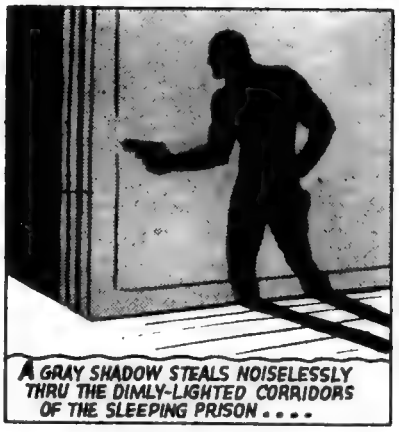
BUT WHERE ARE YOU GOING? EVERY COP IN TOWN IS LOOKING FOR YOU!
I'M GOING BACK TO JAIL--TO GET DIANA OUT!
5-6

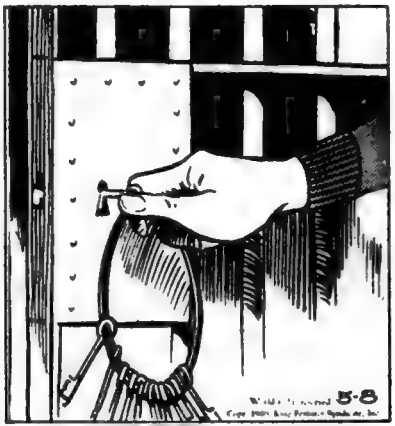

HAVE EVERY PATROLMAN AND RADIO PATROL CAR ON THE LOOK-OUT FOR HIM! I WANT THAT MASKED MAN--DEAD OR ALIVE! I DON'T CARE HOW, BUT I WANT HIM!

THAT YOU, JOE?
YEP, THE OLD LAUNDRY WAGON. COME FOR THE WASH.
LATER, AT THE PRISON GATES...

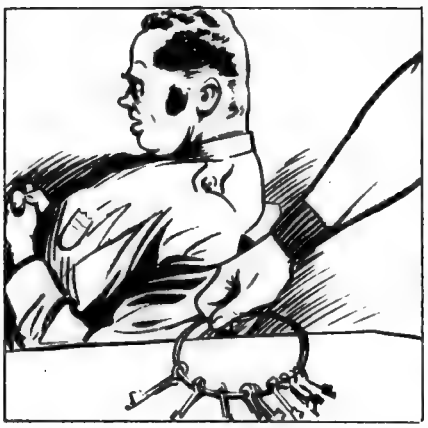
AND INSIDE THE LAUNDRY TRUCK...

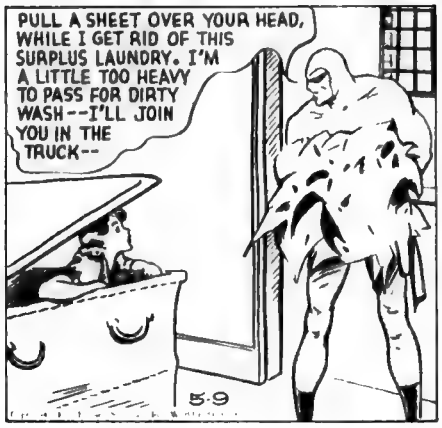
5-7
ONCE WITHIN THE GATES OF THE PRISON YARD, THE PHANTOM SKIPS OUT OF THE TRUCK, HIDING IN THE SHADOWS--WAITING HIS CHANCE...

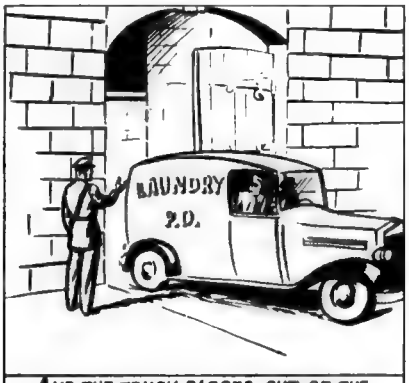

A GRAY SHADOW STEALS NOISELESSLY THRU THE DIMLY-LIGHTED CORRIDORS OF THE SLEEPING PRISON....


5-8

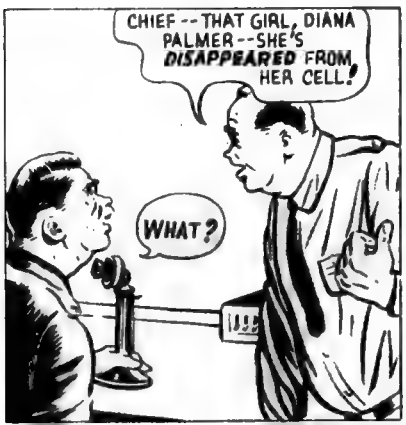
IN THE DIMLY-LIGHTED CORRIDOR OF THE SLEEPING PRISON, A CELL DOOR IS SILENTLY BEING RELOCKED...







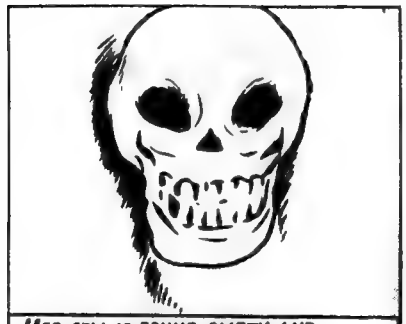
AND THE TRUCK PASSES OUT OF THE GATES OF THE CITY JAIL.



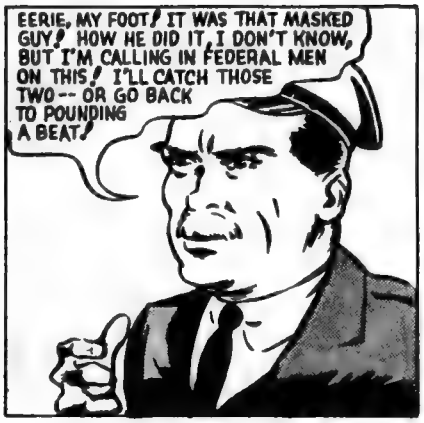
DIANA VISITS THE "SEAHORSE," BARON DANTON'S YACHT. BY ACCIDENT, SHE LEARNS THAT HE HEADS A VAST SPY RING. WITH THE PHANTOM'S HELP, SHE ESCAPES FROM THE "SEAHORSE"--

--ONLY TO BE FRAMED AS A SPY BY DANTON'S MEN--AND IMPRISONED. SHE IS HELPLESS, UNABLE TO PROVE HER INNOCENCE--

THEN, IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT, A GRAY SHADOW MOVES SILENTLY THRU THE SLEEPING JAIL--DIANA IS FREED....



HER CELL IS FOUND EMPTY AND LOCKED--EMPTY--SAVE FOR A MYSTERIOUS AND BAFFLING DEATH'S HEAD ON THE CELL WALL--THE SIGN OF THE SKULL! THE PHANTOM'S MARK!

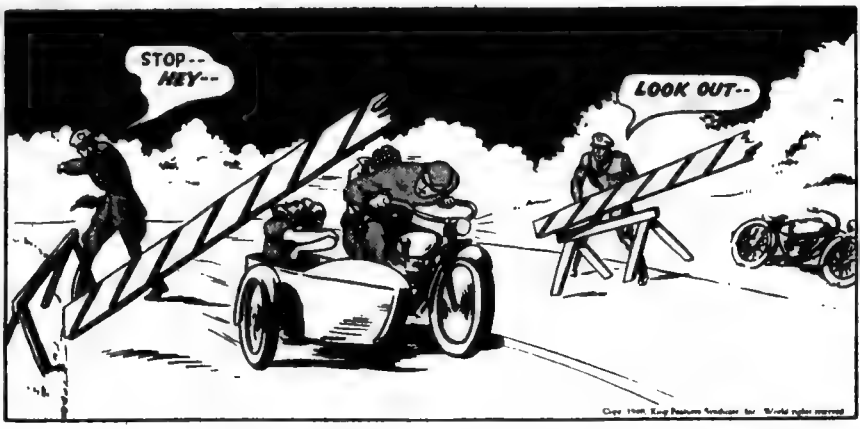


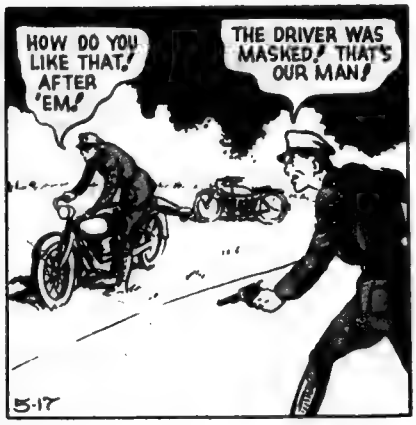
BUT--BUT I-I THOUGHT SHE -WAS-- ALONE--
YES, I KNOW YOU DID. HOP ON BEHIND. I'M DRIVING.

GOT ORDERS TO STOP ALL VEHICLES AND SEARCH FOR A GIRL AND A MASKED MAN.
LIGHT COMING UP THE ROAD NOW. IT'S EITHER A CAR WITH ONE HEADLIGHT ON THE BLINK, OR A MOTOR-CYCLE.

5-16

STOP! COPS AHEAD! STOP--


STOP-- HEY--
LOOK OUT--


HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT! AFTER 'EM!
THE DRIVER WAS MASKED! THAT'S OUR MAN!
5-17

THEY'RE COMING AFTER US! THEY'LL ARREST US! STOP --BEFORE THEY BEGIN SHOOTING!
THEY'LL HAVE TO CATCH US FIRST. HANG ON!

HERE'S WHERE WE LEAVE YOU.
THE COPS SAW MY LICENSE PLATES. I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE CROOKS! WHAT'LL I DO?

WE'RE NOT CROOKS, BUT THEY DON'T KNOW THAT. JUST TELL THEM YOU PICKED UP A COUPLE OF HITCH-HIKERS. THANKS FOR THE RIDE.
5-18

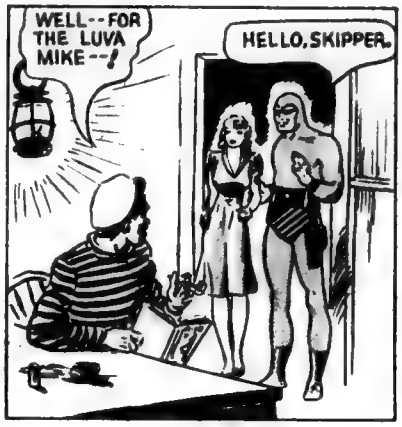
SOME RIDE! ALMOST GOT SHOT --SOMEBODY BETTER EXAMINE MY BRAINS IF I EVER PICK UP ANOTHER HITCH-HIKER-- NO MATTER WHAT SHE LOOKS LIKE!

THEY MUST BE SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE.
WE'LL KEEP LOOKING UNTIL WE SPOT THEM.

THEY MUST HAVE A WHOLE ARMY LOOKING FOR US.
IT'S EXCITING, BEING A FUGITIVE!

IT'S NOT EXCITING, DIANA. IT'S A NASTY BUSINESS. I CAN'T CONVINCE THE POLICE I'M WORKING WITH THEM UNTIL I NAB BARON DANTON. MEANWHILE, I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU LIE IN JAIL BECAUSE HE FRAMED YOU!
5-20

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TO BE A FUGITIVE FROM ANYWHERE. I HATE TO PUT YOU IN THIS SPOT.
WHEN I'M WITH YOU, I'M NOT A FUGITIVE. I'M WHERE I BELONG.


WELL--FOR THE LUVA MIKE--!
HELLO, SKIPPER.

HOW'D YOU GET HER OUT OF JAIL?
IT'S A LONG STORY, SKIPPER. DID YOU GET ANY REPORTS FROM THE FISHING-BOATS ABOUT THE SEAHORSE?

I GOT A FEW REPORTS, LIKE YOU ASKED FOR, AND I CHARTED HER COURSE ON THIS MAP.
Hmm--MOVING ALONG THE COAST, TO THE SOUTH.
5-21

YOU'D THINK THAT GUY, DANTON, KNOWING THE POLICE ARE AFTER HIM, WOULD HEAD FOR OPEN SEA.
FOR SOME REASON, HE HASN'T--WHICH MEANS THERE'S STILL A CHANCE TO GET HIM!

SKIPPER, CAN YOU GET ME A SEAPLANE? I'M GOING TO FLY AFTER DANTON.
YEAH, A FELLOW UP THE BEACH HAS A PLANE FOR HIRE, BUT I CAN'T PILOT IT.

GET IT FOR ME, SKIPPER -- TWO MEN ARE COMING THIS WAY!
GOLLY, YOUR EYES ARE SHARP! LOOK LIKE COPS! THEY'VE BEEN SCOURING THE WOODS AROUND HERE FOR MISS PALMER.

LET'S HAVE A LOOK IN HERE.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A GIRL.
IF YOU FIND HER, ASK HER IF SHE'S GOT A FRIEND. I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR ONE FOR YEARS.

TAKE IT EASY--I TOLD YOU THERE WASN'T ANYBODY HERE BUT ME!
WE'LL SEE FOR OURSELVES--

YOU--YOU--SEE --I TOLD YOU THERE WASN'T-- ANYBODY---
OKAY. THE GIRL'S WITH A MASKED MAN. IF YOU SEE THEM, REPORT TO H.Q. AT ONCE!

WHEW--MY HEART WAS IN MY SHOES! WHERE'D THEY GO?
COAST CLEAR, SKIPPER?
5-23

WE THOUGHT THEY MIGHT. WE LIKED THE VIEW UP HERE BETTER.
MAN--THEY GAVE ME A SCARE WHEN THEY FORCED THEIR WAY IN!

SINCE WHEN ARE YOU TAKING OUT FISHING PARTIES IN PLANES, SKIPPER? TRYING TO DO IT THE HARD WAY?
I GOT A CLIENT WHO WANTS TO GO AFTER FLYING FISH.

THE PLANE'S WAITING OUT THERE, ALL READY TO GO.
FINE. I'M LEAVING DIANA HERE WITH YOU, SKIPPER. TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER AND--

WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT LEAVING ME?
DIANA, THIS IS GOING TO BE DANGEROUS. DANTON'S GOT A WHOLE SHIP'S CREW OUT THERE, ARMED TO THE TEETH.

YOU'LL BE SAFE HERE. WAIT UNTIL I COME BACK FOR YOU.
I'M GOING WITH YOU!
5-24

DARLING--YOU CAN'T GO WITH ME. IT'S TOO DANGEROUS. ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN OUT THERE.
I'M GOING WITH YOU.

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, I'M SAFER WITH YOU--THAN ANYWHERE ELSE.
YOU'RE THE ONLY PERSON IN THE WORLD I CAN'T SAY "NO" TO.

YOU'RE THE SMARTEST FELLOW I EVER MET, BUT EVEN A DUMB GUY LIKE ME COULDA TOLD YOU--YOU CAN'T WIN, ARGUING WITH A FEMALE.

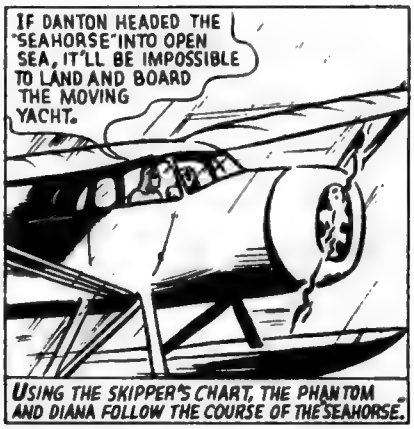
BUT WAS DIANA RIGHT IN INSISTING AND MAKING THE PHANTOM'S TASK DOUBLY HARD? THE "SEAHORSE" AND GRIM, DESPERATE MEN LIE AHEAD OF THEM!

-- THEN THIS GIRL, DIANA PALMER, VANISHES FROM HER CELL. --I FIGURE YOU FEDERAL MEN BETTER CARRY ON FROM THERE.
WHERE'D YOU GET THIS LEDGER, CHIEF?
5-27

THAT MASKED MAN BROUGHT IT IN--
HE DESERVES A MEDAL! WE'VE BEEN ON THE TRAIL OF THIS SPY-RING FOR OVER A YEAR. THE NAMES IN THIS LEDGER WILL CRACK IT WIDE OPEN!

ALL THAT IS MISSING IS BARON DANTON AND HIS CREW ON THE "SEAHORSE." I'VE NO DOUBT THAT MISS PALMER WAS FRAMED, BUT THEY FRAMED HER SOLIDLY. YOU WERE RIGHT IN HOLDING HER.

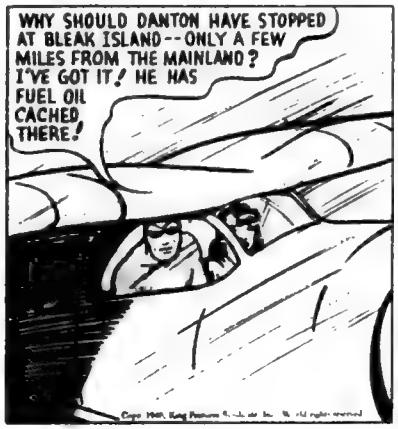
WHAT'S THE NAME OF THIS MASKED MAN?
I DON'T KNOW. HE NEVER STOOD STILL LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO ASK HIM.


IF DANTON HEADED THE "SEAHORSE" INTO OPEN SEA, IT'LL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO LAND AND BOARD THE MOVING YACHT.
USING THE SKIPPER'S CHART, THE PHANTOM AND DIANA FOLLOW THE COURSE OF THE SEAHORSE.

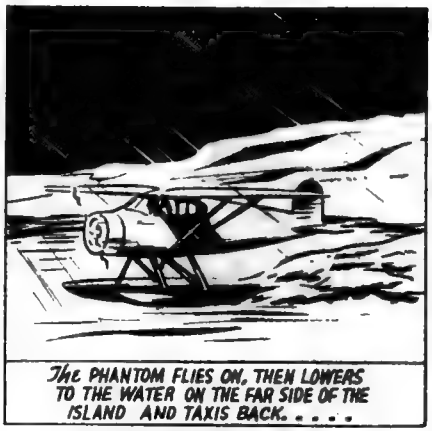
THEN, SUDDENLY--THEY SEE...

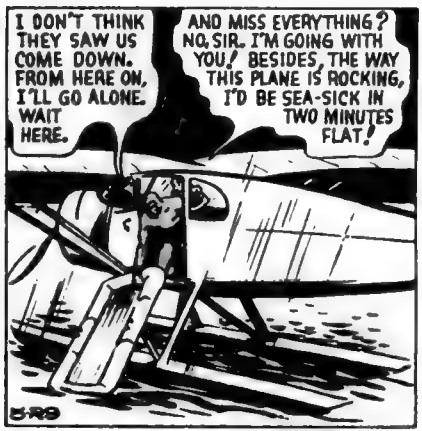
THE ISLAND IS ON THE CHART. IT'S CALLED BLEAK ISLAND.
THE "SEAHORSE"! AT ANCHOR!
5-28

IT'S HARDLY MORE THAN A BIG ROCK. I WONDER WHY THEY STOPPED THERE?
WE'LL SOON FIND OUT!
THEY'VE FOUND THE "SEAHORSE"! NOW WHAT?

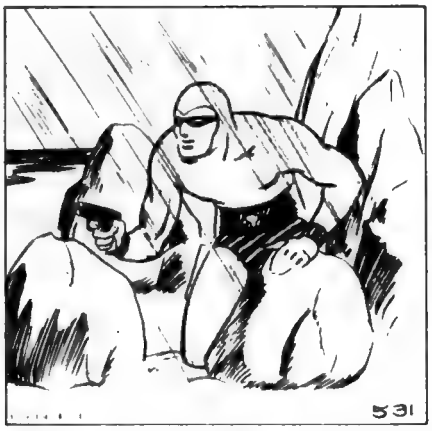

WHY SHOULD DANTON HAVE STOPPED AT BLEAK ISLAND--ONLY A FEW MILES FROM THE MAINLAND? I'VE GOT IT! HE HAS FUEL OIL CACHED THERE!

WHO YOU SUPPOSE IS IN THAT PLANE, BARON DANTON?
PROBABLY A MAIL PLANE.


THE PHANTOM FLIES ON, THEN LOWERS TO THE WATER ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE ISLAND AND TAXIS BACK.....


I DON'T THINK THEY SAW US COME DOWN. FROM HERE ON, I'LL GO ALONE. WAIT HERE.
AND MISS EVERYTHING? NO, SIR. I'M GOING WITH YOU! BESIDES, THE WAY THIS PLANE IS ROCKING, I'D BE SEA-SICK IN TWO MINUTES FLAT!
5-29

THE LOADING ON BLEAK ISLAND GOES ON. WHAT WILL BE THE PHANTOM'S NEXT MOVE? —



THE SAILORS FROM THE "SEAHORSE" CONTINUE LOADING FUEL OIL, CARRYING THE BARRELS TO LIFE-BOATS AND THEN TO THE YACHT---

THEN, AS ONE OF THEM STRAYS FROM THE OTHERS---

NO TRICKS, SAILOR. I MAY BE A LADY, BUT I KNOW HOW TO MAKE THIS GUN GO OFF!
ON BLEAK ISLAND-

FUEL FROM BLEAK ISLAND IS BROUGHT TO THE "SEAHORSE"--

HURRY IT UP, BOYS. WE WANT TO LEAVE BEFORE THE TIDE RUNS OUT!
6-3

DISGUISED, THE PHANTOM CLIMBS TO THE "SEAHORSE." TWICE BEFORE, HE HAS VISITED THE MYSTERIOUS YACHT AND ESCAPED EASILY. WHAT WILL HIS THIRD VENTURE BRING?

GET TO WORK, YOU!
YES, SIR!
THE PHANTOM REACHES THE "SEAHORSE," DISGUISED.

I'LL GET TO WORK, ALL RIGHT, BARON DANTON!
RADIO-ROOM KEEP OUT
6-4

"SEAHORSE"-AT BLEAK ISLAND-- CALLING COAST GUARD PATROL--
"SEAHORSE" AT BLEAK ISLAND

I THOUGHT I SAW SOMEONE SLIP IN HERE! YOU KNOW IT'S AGAINST THE RULES FOR MEN TO ENTER! WHO ARE YOU? TURN AROUND!

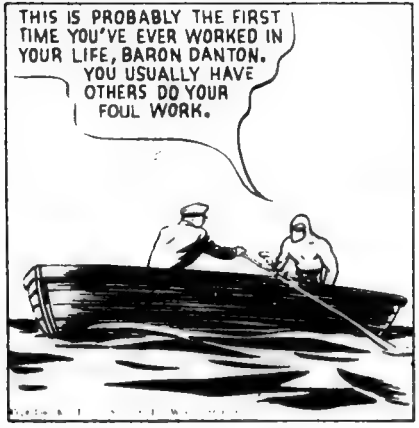
YOU MEN AREN'T ALLOWED IN THE RADIO-ROOM. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? TURN AROUND!
ARE YOU BARON DANTON?

YOU KNOW VERY WELL IT'S ME---
THAT'S ALL I WANT TO KNOW--

I'VE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS MEETING FOR A LONG TIME!
6-5

I HEARD A SHOT! FROM THE RADIO-ROOM!
COME ON!

ABOARD THE "SEAHORSE," THE CREW RUSHES TO THE AID OF THEIR LEADER, BARON DANTON—
TELL THEM TO HOLD THEIR FIRE AND CLEAR OUT, DANTON! OR YOU AND I WILL DIE TOGETHER!
THIS MESSAGE JUST CAME THRU. NOW, IT'S GONE DEAD.
"SEAHORSE" AT BLEAK ISLAND. "SEAHORSE"? WHERE HAVE I HEARD THAT BEFORE? I'D BETTER TAKE THIS TO THE COMMANDANT.
ABOARD A GOVERNMENT COAST GUARD CUTTER--
"SEAHORSE"! ISN'T THAT THE SPY SHIP THAT----
IT IS! WE PROCEED TO BLEAK ISLAND AT ONCE! NOTIFY THE BASE!
KEEP MOVING, DANTON. YOUR MEN CAN'T KILL ME QUICK ENOUGH TO KEEP ME FROM PUTTING A BULLET INTO YOU!
ABOARD THE "SEAHORSE," THE PHANTOM MARCHES DANTON SLOWLY BETWEEN THE MENACING ROWS OF THE YACHT'S CREW--
AND SO-- SPEAKING IN A SOFT, DEADLY VOICE, HIS NERVES AS COLD AS ICE-- THE PHANTOM "SHANGHAIS" DANTON UNDER THE VERY EYES OF HIS OWN ARMED MEN!
KEEP GOING, DANTON. ONE FALSE MOVE BY ANYONE-- AND YOU'RE FINISHED--!
6-7
TAKE IT EASY, SAILOR. I'M WARNING YOU--
MISS, YOU GOT ME WRONG. I AIN'T UP TO NOTHING. I'M GLAD TO GET AWAY FROM DANTON!
IN THE CAVE ON BLEAK ISLAND
DO YOU MEAN THAT?
SURE THING. I DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS A SPY RING ON THE "SEAHORSE," OR I'D NEVER SIGNED UP. THAT DANTON TREATED US LIKE SLAVES!
6-8
I HOPE THEY GET HIM --AND I'LL TELL ALL I KNOW-- SAY, LET'S GET OUT OF THIS CAVE! THERE'S SCORPIONS IN HERE-- ONE BY YOUR SHOULDER--
SCORPIONS--
GIVE ME THAT GUN--!
OH!


THIS IS PROBABLY THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE EVER WORKED IN YOUR LIFE, BARON DANTON. YOU USUALLY HAVE OTHERS DO YOUR FOUL WORK.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH ME?
TAKE YOU TO THE POLICE ON THE MAINLAND. THEY'LL GO ON FROM THERE.

WHY--WHY HAVE YOU INVOLVED YOURSELF IN MY BUSINESS?
WHEN YOU FRAMED DIANA, YOUR BUSINESS BECAME MY BUSINESS.

WHAT A FOOL I WAS TO LET YOU GET THAT GUN FROM ME!
BOSS'LL BE GLAD TO SEE YOU.
6-10
AND FROM THE CAVE ON BLEAK ISLAND...

LET ME GO. I CAN PAY YOU WELL. I'LL MAKE YOU RICH.
DON'T WASTE YOUR BREATH, DANTON. YOU'LL NEED IT.

WELL--WHAT'S THIS?

DIANA!
6-11

DANTON, TELL HIM TO DROP HIS GUN OR I'LL KILL YOU.
TWO CAN MAKE THREATS, AS WELL AS ONE.

OH, DARLING--I'VE MESSED UP EVERYTHING! HE GOT MY GUN FROM ME BY A SILLY TRICK!
OUR POSITIONS HAVE CHANGED, HAVE THEY NOT?

RED, IF HE DOESN'T GIVE ME HIS GUN BY THE TIME I COUNT THREE, BLOW OFF HER PRETTY HEAD!
6-12

I'LL REPEAT! RED, IF HE DOESN'T HAND ME HIS GUN BY THE TIME I COUNT THREE, BLOW OFF HER PRETTY HEAD!
YOU REALIZE THAT IF HE OBEYS THAT ORDER, YOU'RE A DEAD MAN.

THAT WON'T DO HER MUCH GOOD, WILL IT?

DON'T GIVE HIM YOUR GUN, DARLING. HE WON'T DARE! HE'S BLUFFING!
6-13

BLUFFING? ONE-- TWO--

DON'T GIVE HIM YOUR GUN! I TELL YOU, HE'S BLUFFING! HE WOULDN'T DARE KILL ME!
THAT'S ONE BLUFF I CAN'T RISK. YOU WIN, DANTON.

WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH DIANA?
SHE GOES WITH ME. AS FOR YOU, OUR LITTLE DRAMA IS ALMOST OVER, EXCEPT FOR THE FINAL CURTAIN -- IN WHICH YOU ARE THE STAR PERFORMER.
6-14

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YOU'LL SEE! TAKE HIM TO THE STERN!

YOU'VE TRIED TO END THE CAREER OF THE "SEAHORSE"! IT IS ONLY FITTING THAT THE "SEAHORSE" ITSELF, SHOULD BE YOUR EXECUTIONER!

THE PHANTOM IS LIFTED OVER THE STERN OF THE "SEAHORSE"...

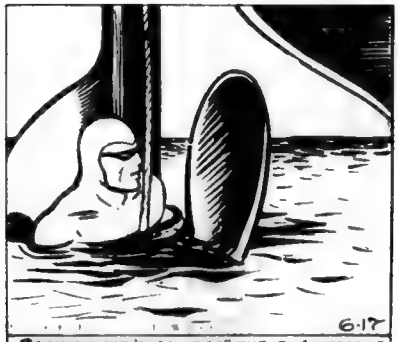
AND LOWERED INTO THE WATER-- AGAINST THE PROPELLERS...

WHEN THE PROPELLERS BEGIN TO CHURN -- YOU MAY HAVE A FEW MOMENTS OF CONSCIOUSNESS IN WHICH TO RUE THE DAY YOU FIRST SAW ME!

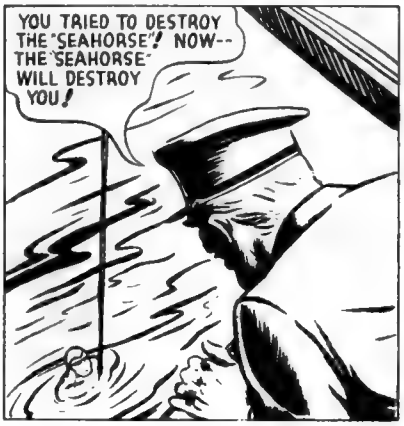
WHEN **DIANA** DISCOVERS THAT BARON DANTON LEADS A SPY-RING, SHE IS FRAMED BY DANTON AND JAILED AS A SPY. THE **PHANTOM** RESCUES HER FROM PRISON....

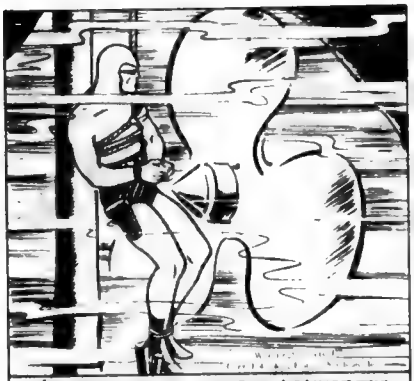
THEY GO TO BLEAK ISLAND, WHERE DANTON'S YACHT, THE "SEAHORSE", IS REFUELING. DISGUISED THE PHANTOM BOARDS THE YACHT AND RADIOS THE POSITION OF THE SPY-SHIP...

THE PHANTOM TAKES DANTON OFF THE "SEAHORSE" UNDER THE VERY EYES OF DANTON'S CREW--ONLY TO FIND DIANA CAPTURED BY ONE OF THE SAILORS --AND TO SAVE HER LIFE, GIVES UP HIS GUN...



BACK ON THE "SEAHORSE", THE PHANTOM IS BOUND--AND IS TO BE LOWERED AGAINST THE YACHT'S PROPELLERS--DANTON'S CRUEL METHOD OF EXECUTION. *continued*





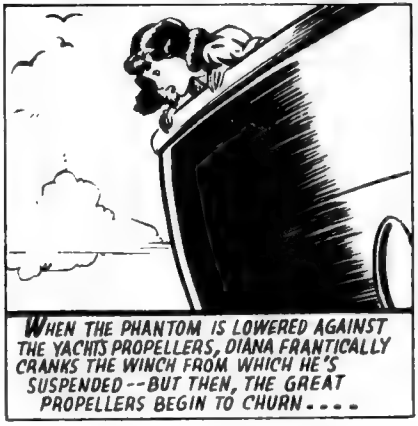
THE PHANTOM IS LOWERED AGAINST THE IDLE PROPELLERS OF THE "SEAHORSE"...

DIANA RUSHES TO THE WINCH FROM WHICH THE PHANTOM IS SUSPENDED, AND FRANTICALLY TURNS THE CRANK--

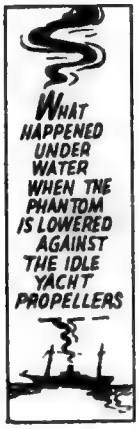
THEN, THE DECKS QUIVER AS THE GREAT MOTORS TURN OVER, AND THE PROPELLERS BEGIN TO CHURN! DIANA STANDS, FROZEN--DAZED...

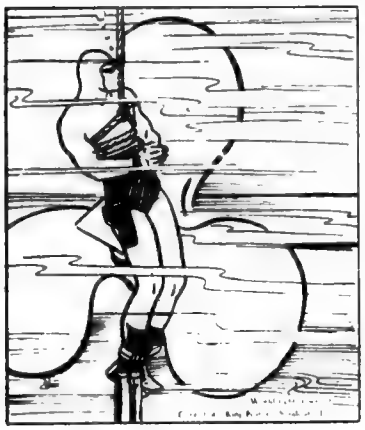
SHE'S FAINTED. GET HER SOME WATER.

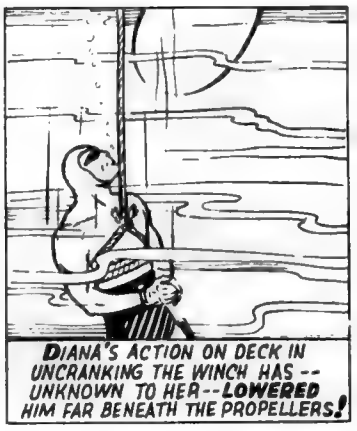
NOT A PRETTY WAY -- TO DIE.
HIS LIFE -- OR OURS. HE LOST!
6-20

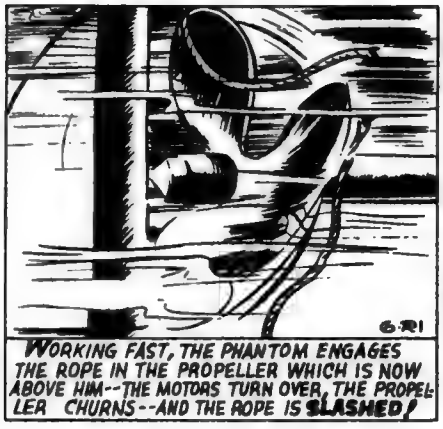

WHEN THE PHANTOM IS LOWERED AGAINST THE YACHT'S PROPELLERS, DIANA FRANTICALLY CRANKS THE WINCH FROM WHICH HE'S SUSPENDED -- BUT THEN, THE GREAT PROPELLERS BEGIN TO CHURN....

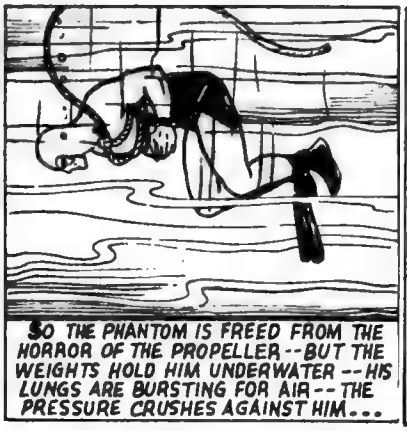
TURN OFF THE MOTORS. THEIR JOB IS DONE. WE CAN'T WASTE FUEL! NOW -- WE'LL FINISH OUR LOADING!

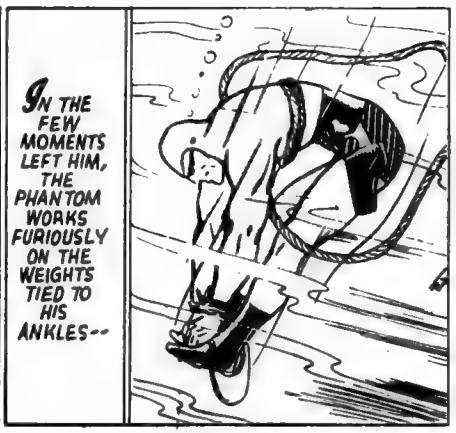

WHAT HAPPENED UNDER WATER WHEN THE PHANTOM IS LOWERED AGAINST THE IDLE YACHT PROPELLERS



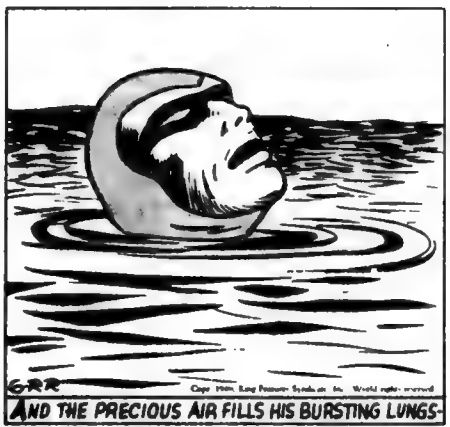

DIANA'S ACTION ON DECK IN UNCRANKING THE WINCH HAS -- UNKNOWN TO HER -- LOWERED HIM FAR BENEATH THE PROPELLERS!

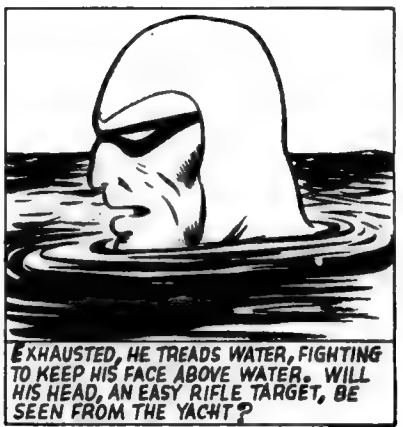

6-21
WORKING FAST, THE PHANTOM ENGAGES THE ROPE IN THE PROPELLER WHICH IS NOW ABOVE HIM -- THE MOTORS TURN OVER, THE PROPELLER CHURNS -- AND THE ROPE IS SLASHED!


SO THE PHANTOM IS FREED FROM THE HORROR OF THE PROPELLER -- BUT THE WEIGHTS HOLD HIM UNDERWATER -- HIS LUNGS ARE BURSTING FOR AIR -- THE PRESSURE CRUSHES AGAINST HIM...

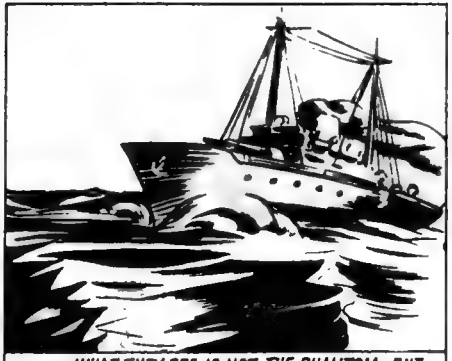

IN THE FEW MOMENTS LEFT HIM, THE PHANTOM WORKS FURIOUSLY ON THE WEIGHTS TIED TO HIS ANKLES--

HE SLIPS OFF THE WEIGHTS, AND WITH HIS LEGS FREE, BUT HIS HANDS STILL TIED, DRIVES FOR THE SURFACE---


6-22
AND THE PRECIOUS AIR FILLS HIS BURSTING LUNGS-


EXHAUSTED, HE TREADS WATER, FIGHTING TO KEEP HIS FACE ABOVE WATER. WILL HIS HEAD, AN EASY RIFLE TARGET, BE SEEN FROM THE YACHT?

HIS HANDS TIED, THE PHANTOM GULPS AIR AND WATCHES THE NEARBY YACHT! HE NOTICES A COMMOTION ON DECK--HIS HEART SINKS--HAVE THEY SPOTTED HIM?



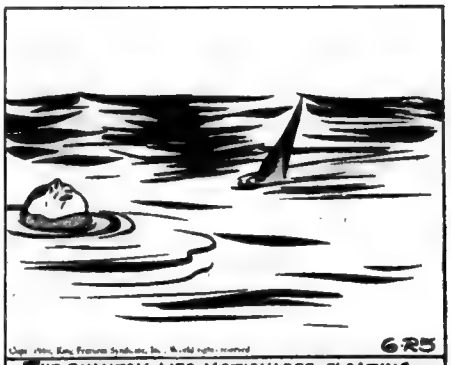
WHAT THEY SEE IS NOT THE PHANTOM, BUT A GOVERNMENT GUNBOAT--WHICH THE PHANTOM HAD REACHED EARLIER BY RADIO!

THE PHANTOM ALSO SEES IT----HEARTENED, HE BEGINS THE LONG PULL TO THE ROCKY SHORE OF BLEAK ISLAND, BATTLING THE WAVES, HIS TIED HANDS USELESS TO HIM!

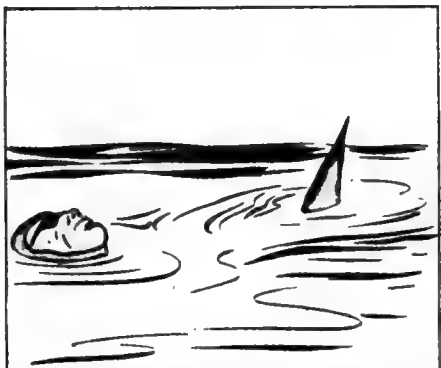
DANTON IS OVER-OPTIMISTIC! THE GUNBOAT, RADIOED BY THE PHANTOM, HAS COME TO CAPTURE THE 'SEAHORSE'!

MEANWHILE, UNNOTICED, HIS HANDS STILL TIED, THE PHANTOM WORKS HIS WAY TOWARDS BLEAK ISLAND'S SHORE...

UNNOTICED? NOT QUITE! AN OMINOUS SHARK'S FIN CUTS THE WATER AS IT DRIVES TOWARDS HIM!



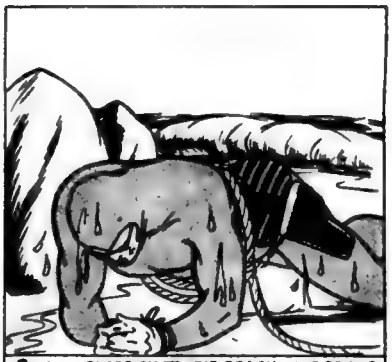
THE PHANTOM LIES MOTIONLESS, FLOATING ON THE WATER, AS THE GREAT FISH NOSES CAUTIOUSLY NEAR HIM!



THE GREAT SHARK NOSES THE INERT BODY OF THE PHANTOM--WHO LIES STILL, NOT DARING TO BREATHE

THE RUSE WORKS--THE FISH DISAPPEARS INTO THE DEPTHS, AND THE PHANTOM FIGHTS HIS WAY ON THRU THE SURF...

HE REACHES THE ROCKY COAST OF BLEAK ISLAND--THE HEAVY BREAKERS BATTER HIM AGAINST THE BOULDERS...



BUT HE PLODS ON TO THE BEACH--HIS POWERFUL BODY IS EXHAUSTED--HE DROPS TO THE ROCKS THAT FEEL AS SOFT AS GOOSE DOWN!

IT'S THE "SEAHORSE"! SIGNAL THEM TO SURRENDER PEACEFULLY!
AYE, SIR.
FROM THE BRIDGE OF THE GUNBOAT, ORDERS ARE SIGNALED TO THE "SEAHORSE".

SURRENDER, NOTHING! GUN CREW--IN FORMATION! PREPARE TO FIRE!
AND ON THE "SEAHORSE"--
6RT

BARON DANTON'S ANSWER!

I HOPE THEY SINK YOU!
DANTON GETS HIS OWN MEDICINE BACK IN SHORT ORDER, AS THE HEAVIER GUNS OF THE GUNBOAT REPLY WITH AN INSTANT SALVO!

YOU KILLED HIM! NOW--IT'S YOUR TURN!
SHUT UP! THEY CAN'T DO THIS --I'LL STOP THEM!
AS THE GUNBOAT'S HEAVY GUNS ROAR AT THE "SEAHORSE"...

WE CAN'T FIGHT THEM, SIR. LET'S GIVE UP!
WE'RE LICKED!
NOT YET! LASH THE GIRL TO THE GUN!

LASH THE GIRL--? NO--NOT --ME--
NOT ME--
YELLOW RATS-- THE LOT OF YOU! THEN I'LL DO IT!

SIGNAL THEM --IF THEY DON'T CEASE FIRING AND SHUT OFF THEIR MOTORS --I'LL FIRE THRU THE GIRL!
6RB

MESSAGE FROM THE "SEAHORSE", SIR. THEY SAY THEY HAVE A GIRL LASHED TO THEIR GUN--AND WILL FIRE THRU HER UNLESS WE CEASE FIRING!
WHAT'S THAT?

-SEEN THRU THE BINOCULARS...

SHE'S THERE! WHAT'LL WE DO?
WE DON'T KNOW WHO SHE IS! IT LOOKS LIKE A BLUFF. OUR ORDERS ARE TO CAPTURE THE "SEAHORSE"!

THEY THINK I'M BLUFFING! I'LL SHOW THEM! FIRE!

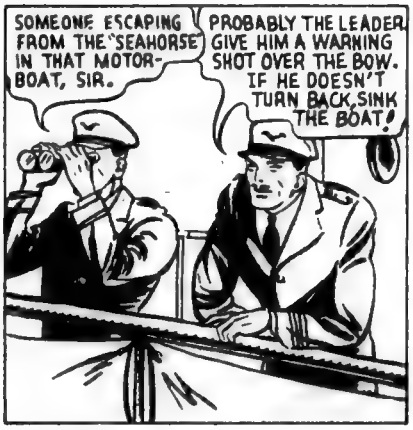
I SAID -- FIRE!
WE CAN'T FOLLOW THAT ORDER, SIR.
IT'S NOT OUR IDEA OF FIGHTING, SIR.
ON THE "SEAHORSE", DIAN IS LASHED TO THE GUN!

WE'LL FOLLOW, SIR -- AND TAKE YOUR ORDERS -- BUT NOT THAT!
VERY WELL!

TAKE MY ORDERS, WILL YOU?

THEN THESE ARE MY LAST ORDERS TO YOU! STAY ON THE "SEAHORSE" -- AND SINK WITH IT!

UNDER THE FIRE OF THE GUNBOAT, DANTON ESCAPES FROM THE "SEAHORSE" WITH DIANA.


SOMEONE ESCAPING FROM THE "SEAHORSE" IN THAT MOTOR-BOAT, SIR.
PROBABLY THE LEADER. GIVE HIM A WARNING SHOT OVER THE BOW. IF HE DOESN'T TURN BACK, SINK THE BOAT!

THEY'RE FIRING AT US!
YOU CAN'T GET AWAY! THEY'LL GET YOU!
DAZED SINCE SHE LAST SAW THE PHANTOM SINK BENEATH THE WATER, DIANA TAUNTS DANTON!

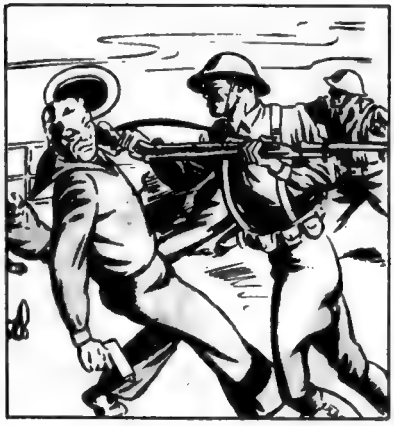
BUT DANTON DRIVES ON GRIMLY, ZIG-ZAGGING, AS THE SHELLS THUNDER NEAR THEM!

ZIG-ZAGGING UNDER THE GUNBOAT'S FIRE, DANTON REACHES THE SHORE OF BLEAK ISLAND WITH DIANA.

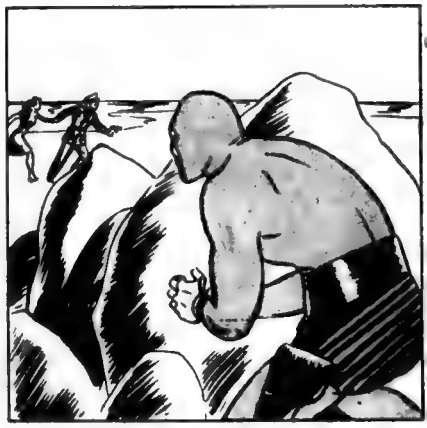
THEY'VE REACHED THE ISLAND, SIR. IT WAS A HARD TARGET.
NEVER MIND THEM. THEY CAN'T LEAVE THE ISLAND. ISSUE RIFLES AND BAYONETS. MAKE READY TO BOARD THE "SEAHORSE"!

WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?
I'M GOING TO KILL YOU!

AND ON THE BEACH, HIDDEN FROM THEM BY BOULDERS



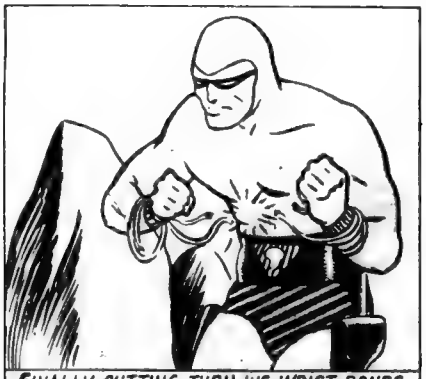
MADDENED BY THE CAPTURE OF HIS YACHT, THE "SEAHORSE," DANTON DRAGS DIANA OFF --TO MURDER HER!



HURRIEDLY, THE PHANTOM SMASHES A CLAM SHELL WITH HIS HEEL, AND USING A SHARP FRAGMENT, TRIES TO CUT HIS BONDS

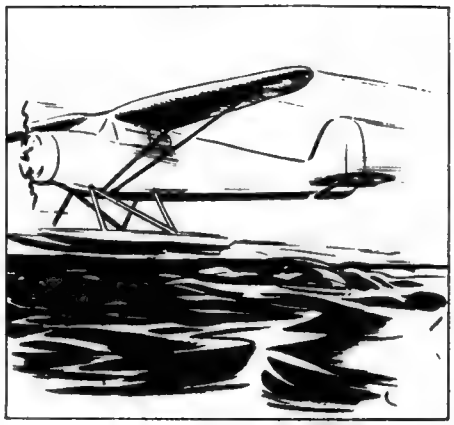
AS THE PHANTOM TRIES TO CUT THE TOUGH WRIST ROPES WITH A CLAM SHELL--THE SHARP FRAGMENTS BREAK AND CRUMBLE --HE WORKS ON FRANTICALLY....

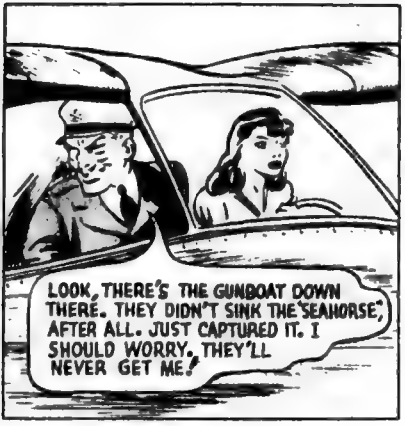
DANTON DOESN'T REALIZE THAT HIS SHIP ISN'T GOING DOWN--BUT HAS BEEN CAPTURED BY THE MARINES!



FINALLY CUTTING THRU HIS WRIST BONDS WITH THE CLAM SHELL FRAGMENTS--

--THE PHANTOM HURRIES AFTER DIANA AND DANTON. CAN HE REACH THEM IN TIME?

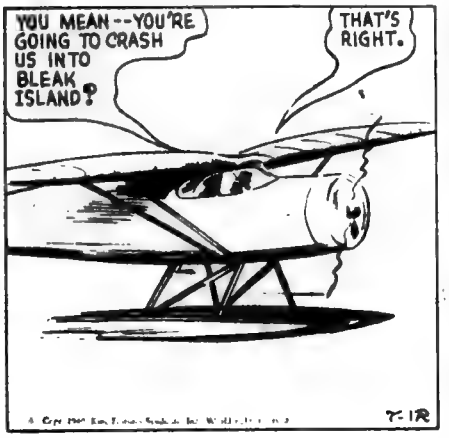



LOOK, THERE'S THE GUNBOAT DOWN THERE. THEY DIDN'T SINK THE "SEAHORSE," AFTER ALL. JUST CAPTURED IT. I SHOULD WORRY. THEY'LL NEVER GET ME!

THAT'S RIGHT. THEY WON'T-- NOT ALIVE.
I DIDN'T LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT.

WHERE ARE WE GOING? ALL YOU'RE DOING IS CIRCLING AND CLIMBING! WE'RE STILL OVER BLEAK ISLAND!
THAT'S RIGHT. I'M GETTING ALTITUDE. THEN WE'RE GOING DOWN, FAST!
7-11

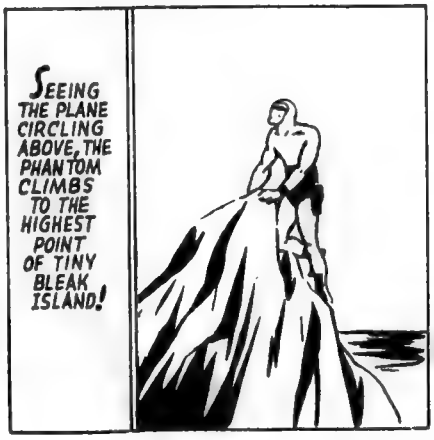
WHAT--WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YOU'RE GOING BACK TO BLEAK ISLAND, BARON DANTON! HEAD FIRST--AT TWO HUNDRED MILES PER!


YOU MEAN--YOU'RE GOING TO CRASH US INTO BLEAK ISLAND?
THAT'S RIGHT.
7-12

YOU'VE LOST YOUR MIND!
NOT AT ALL! YOU KILLED HIM, AGAINST THE PROPELLERS OF YOUR YACHT! NOW, YOU'RE GOING TO DIE!

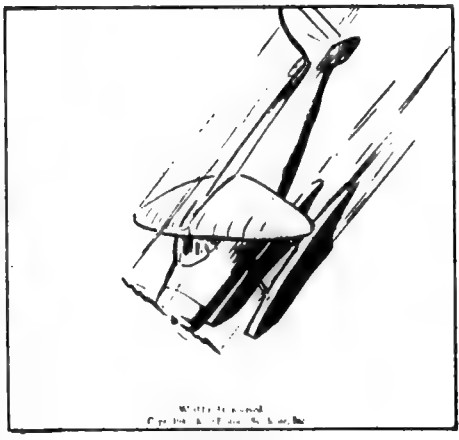
IS THIS WHY-- YOU OFFERED TO HELP ME ESCAPE?
THAT'S RIGHT.

BUT YOU'LL BE KILLED, TOO!
THAT DOESN'T MATTER. THE MAIN THING IS--- YOU'RE GOING TO DIE, BARON DANTON--AND THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO STOP IT.


SEEING THE PLANE CIRCLING ABOVE, THE PHANTOM CLIMBS TO THE HIGHEST POINT OF TINY BLEAK ISLAND!

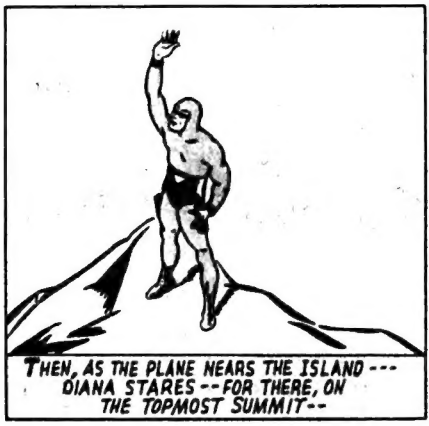
NO--DIANA--NO --DON'T CRASH US INTO THE ISLAND! TAKE ME TO THE POLICE! THEY CAN PUT ME IN JAIL--
YOU KILLED HIM. NOW IT'S YOUR TURN.

I'LL GIVE YOU ANYTHING --I'LL--STOP-- OR I'LL PUT A BULLET INTO YOUR HEAD!
THAT WON'T HELP YOU, BARON DANTON! YOU CAN'T FLY A PLANE. HERE WE GO.



DETERMINED TO AVENGE THE PHANTOM, DIANA DIVES THE PLANE AT THE HARD ROCKS OF BLEAK ISLAND —
T-15

HEEDLESS OF THE FACT THAT SHE'LL MEET DEATH, HERSELF--SHE DIVES DOWN---, FASTER--FASTER--DANTON MUST DIE!

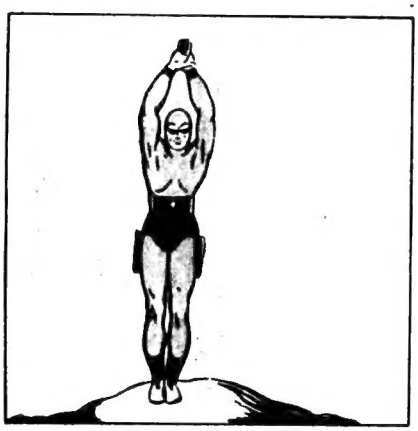

THEN, AS THE PLANE NEARS THE ISLAND--- DIANA STARES--FOR THERE, ON THE TOPMOST SUMMIT--

CAN IT-- BE--?
DANTON, FROZEN WITH FEAR, SEES NOTHING-- BUT DIANA HAS SEEN HIM -- HIS POWERFUL DARK FORM IS UNMISTAKABLE!

DIANA HAS SEEN SOMETHING! AND JUST IN TIME SHE BRINGS THE PLANE OUT OF ITS DIVE, BARELY MISSING THE ROCKS OF BLEAK ISLAND!

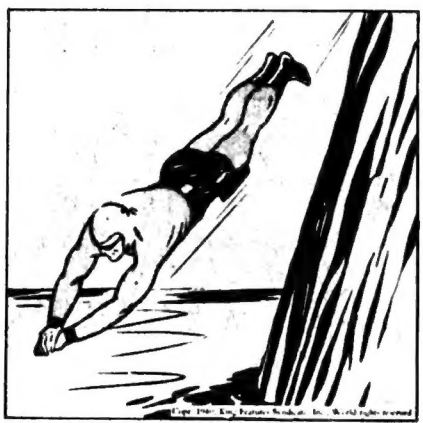
YOU CRAZY WOMAN! YOU ALMOST KILLED ME! NOW-- I'M GOING TO--
I DON'T THINK YOU'RE GOING TO DO ANYTHING --EVER AGAIN, BARON DANTON. LOOK---

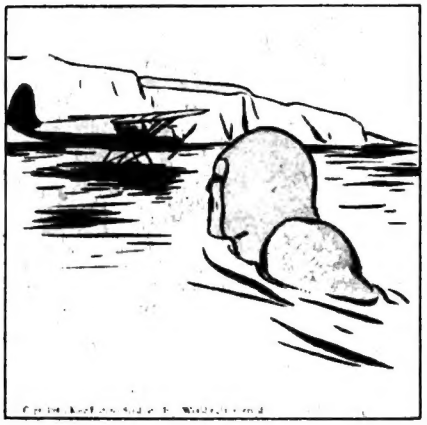
T-16



IT--CAN'T BE! HE'S DEAD! HE DIED AGAINST THE PROPELLERS OF THE "SEAHORSE"!

THEY CALL HIM--THE GHOST WHO WALKS! YOU TRIED TO KILL HIM, BUT YOU COULDN'T! NOW--HE'S COME BACK FOR YOU!
T-17





OMINOUS AND DEADLY, THE PHANTOM SLOWLY STALKS HIS PREY THRU THE DESOLATE ROCKS OF BLEAK ISLAND.

WON'T GET ME-- WON'T--WON'T -- GET ME--

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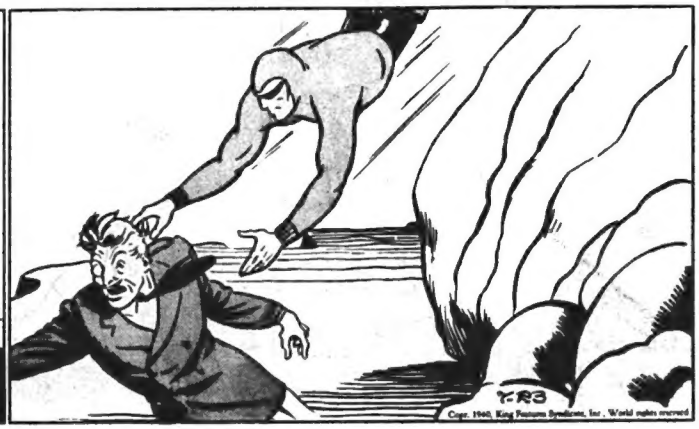
AS THE PURSUING PHANTOM CLIMBS--HE DISLODGES A FEW SMALL ROCKS...

WHAT -- WAS THAT--?
T-RR

YOU'RE DEAD--DEAD MEN CAN'T COME BACK--KEEP AWAY-- KEEP AWAY--

ON BLEAK ISLAND:- DANTON, FRANTIC AT THE SIGHT OF THE PHANTOM, STARTS TO RUN--THE PHANTOM DIVES AT HIM...


T-R3
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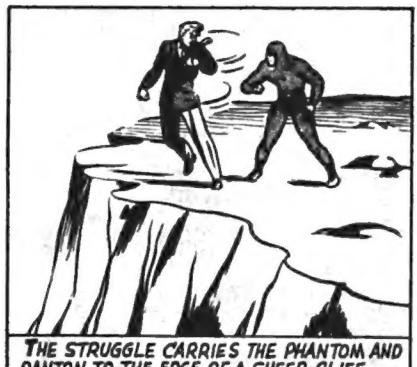
DANTON FIGHTS DESPERATELY ON THE BARE ROCKS--HIS FEAR GIVING HIM ALMOST SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH...

AND THE STRUGGLE CARRIES THEM TO THE EDGE OF THE SHEER CLIFF WHERE, FAR BELOW, THE WAVES POUND ON JAGGED ROCKS.


THE STRUGGLE CARRIES THE PHANTOM AND DANTON TO THE EDGE OF A SHEER CLIFF--FEAR GIVES DANTON SUPER-STRENGTH--HE JERKS OUT OF THE PHANTOM'S IRON GRIP...

STAY BACK--STAY BACK--I'LL KILL YOU--

HE RETREATS TOO CLOSE TO THE EDGE—

T-R4
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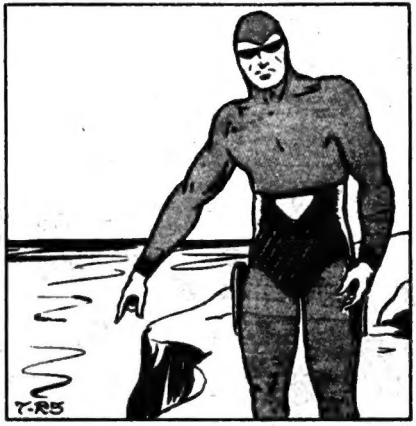
MARINES FROM THE GUNBOAT LAND AT BLEAK ISLAND—

WE'RE LOOKING FOR BARON DANTON -- HE ESCAPED HERE, FROM THE "SEAHORSE"--


T-R5

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THE END OF BARON DANTON, RULER of the "SEAHORSE"

THE "SEAHORSE" SPY-RING IS NOW CLEARED UP -- THANKS TO YOU. MISS PALMER IS COMPLETELY EXONERATED. YOU CERTAINLY HAD US FOOLED.
YEAH, WE DIDN'T KNOW WHICH SIDE OF THE FENCE YOU WERE ON. WHAT'S YOUR NAME? YOU ACTED MIGHTY SUSPICIOUS.
I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO BE ANY OTHER WAY. HERE'S MY CARD. IF YOU NEED ME AGAIN, CALL ON ME. GOODBYE.
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CONFOUND IT, WHERE DID HE GO? HE NEVER STANDS STILL LONG ENOUGH FOR A MAN TO GET A GOOD LOOK AT HIM. WHERE'S THAT CARD? I MAY WANT HIM AGAIN.
HERE.
T-R6

MAMA!
DIANA-- DARLING!

YOU MEAN--EVERYTHING'S ALL RIGHT NOW--AND YOU WON'T HAVE TO GO BACK TO THAT HORRIBLE JAIL?
I'M A FREE CITIZEN AGAIN.

THE PAPERS HAVE BEEN FULL OF YOU AND BLEAK ISLAND, AND EVERYBODY IS WAITING TO SEE YOU---
OH--

EVERYBODY WILL HAVE TO WAIT.
UNTIL DOOMSDAY.
T-R7